

IN THIS SECTION Keegan: wrong for the job?

RICHARD WILLIAMS, PAGE 24



Investigation launched after 28 , babies die in hospital experiment

BY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

BBC

MINISTERS HAVE ordered an inquiry into research at an NHS trust where an experimental treatment carried out on 122 premature babies resulted in the death or injury of 43 of them.

The inquiry, which addresses similar issues to those in the Bristol heart babies case, will focus on whether the experiment was allowed to go on too long and whether proper consent was obtained from the parents who allowed their babies to take part in the trial.

■ What the Henshall family didn't know page3

A man of controversy page 3

Leading article Review, page 3

The experimental treatment at the North Staffordshire Hospital in Stoke- on-Trent involved the use of a new type of ventilator like a modern version of the iron lung to help the babies breathe. Between 1989 and 1993, 122 babies had the new treatment and 28 died and 15 suffered brain damage.

Some claim they were toldit was the "safest, gentlest" treatment and they were being given the best care available. They say they were not told the treatment was experimental. The ventilators are no longer used for premature babies but they are still in use for older infants. The Independent has learned that Baroness Hay- cil, the doctors' disciplinary the general framework for the Nash, former general manag-



Professor David Southall, the consultant paediatrician whose ventilator study involving premature babies will be examined by the inquiry

man, minister of health, ordered the inquiry last week and appointed Professor Rod Griffiths, regional director of public health for the West Mid-

lands, to lead it. The General Medical Coun-

body, is also examining a complaint from parents backed by a 1,600-page dossier.

A spokeswoman for the health department confirmed that Prof Griffiths had been asked to "undertake a review of

trust." Prof Griffiths has asked Dr Michael Harrison, former director of public health for the West Midlands, and Cynthia night that the inquiry is fo-

clinical research projects at health directorate, both now of North Staffordshire NHS Midlands Health Consultancy Network, to carry out the re-

view and report to him. The Trust confirmed last cused on the ventilator study

approval and monitoring of er of the West Midlands public led by Prof David Southall, a in hospital. Some were cases of consultant paediatrician who has attracted controversy over other studies including the covert video surveillance of parents suspected of child abuse. They were secretly filmed while their children were

tention-seeking personality disorder Between 1986 and 1994, that led to 34 successful criminal prosecutions. Prof Southall had been accused of being an

allegations. The inquiry into the North Staffordshire Trust was triggered when Llin Golding. Labour MP for Newcastle under-Lyme, was approached by a family affected by the ven: tilator treatment. Carl and Debbie Henshall's daughter, Stacey, died on the machine in February 1992. Her sister, Sofie, born in November 1992, suffered brain damage and is permanently disabled. Ms Golding met the Henshalls then approached Baroness Hayman who set up the inquiry.

News 3

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Ms Golding said: "I am not against research as long as the people involved know what is going on. The Henshalls felt they had oot been informed about the experimental nature of the treatment.

There is also a possibility that the research went on too long and should have been stopped sooner."

'I am not pre-judging the situation and I am not attacking Prof Southall. We need some one to look at children's issues with an open mind and he is trying to do things for children. The question is how far should he have gone?"

In a statement to The Independent last night the Trust said the ventilator study was approved by its research ethics committee and that it holds consent forms signed by all the patients involved.

All the babies were at high risk because of their prematurity and rates of death and disability among the 122 babies who received the experimental treatment were no different Munchausen by proxy, the at- from those who received conventional treatment.

"There is no evidence to support the implication that any disability or death were a consequence of the study," it

Israelis kill 3 Kurdish protesters

ISRAELI GUARDS shot dead By IMRE KARACS three Kurdish demonstrators in Berlin and wounded another 16 in front of their general consulate in Berlin yesterday, as Germany was engulfed in protests over Turkey's capture of the rebel Kurdish leader Abdullah

Two protesters died immediately, their blood leaving a red trail on Berlin's fresh snow. The third died in hospital shortly after arrival. Several of the injured were reported to be in a serious condition.

The Israelis - blamed by the Kurds for helping the Turks to

ERIC SILVER AND

ANDREW BUNCOMBE

capture their leader - said they acted in self-defence, while protecting their heavily fortified building in the auburb of Grunewald from demonstrators

armed with sticks and stones: The latest bloodshed threatens to provoke further waves of protests across Europe where many Kurds live in exile.

Turkish television yesterday showed the first footage of the rebel leader on the flight to

Turkey. Handcuffed and tied up in an aircraft seat, he grimaced as masked Turkish special forces captors questioned him.

"Abdullah Ocalan, welcome home," said one. "You are our guest from now on." "Thank you," said Mr Ocalan. "I really love Turkey and the Turkish people." Pressing home their advantage against the PKK, the Turkish military sent tanks and 2,000 troops into neighbouring Iraq to destroy Kurdish

In Berlin, the protest by about 200 Kurds was initially peaceful. But shortly before

through the cordon of police, and appeared poised to storm the building. The Kurds also briefly took a woman employee hostage. In the scuffles, the Israelis say one demonstrator tried to snatch a gun from a

guard whose colleagues then

opened fire, allegedly without

Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said last night: "Our security guards have clear instructions to protect their own lives, to protect the lives of Israelis, and to prevent, if necessary by force, the

taking of hostages." He denied of Germany, and rumours Israel played any role in getting the PKK leader into Turkish

In London, the Greek embassy remained in the hands of about 40 Kurdish protesters who announced a hunger strike and said they would set themselves on fire if the police attacked. Tension increased at one point as one man apparently doused himself in petrol before being restrained by the crowd and then dragged away by police. Elsewhere in Europe protests were

dying down last night. Violence flared in other parts swept Berlin that Kurds were planning to stage a protest on the Ku'dam, the higgest shopping street. In Hamburg, about 30 PKK members occupied the offices of the governing Social Democrat Party, injuring a

party worker they took hostage. There are an estimated 600,000 Kurds living in Germany, and some 2 million Turks. Conflict between the two communities has in the past spilt over on to Germany's

Kurdish protests.



pages 12 and 13 A Kurdish activist injured in Berlin yesterday Reuters

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Unemployment fell despite the economic slowdown

Jobless lowest since 1980

Arsenal star speaks out Nicolas Anelka once more criticises Arsenal team-mates

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Inviting businessmen to join Government was not a good idea

Yasmin Allbhai-Brown How does a man know if his seed has been stolen? Cambridge, a victim of its own success: no one can afford to live there

There's nowt as queer as tabloid





WINNER BEST ALBUM AND BEST **BRITISH BAND, BRIT AWARDS 1999**



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'If there's a working class in Islington, it's assumed it must be for ironic purposes'

MARK STEEL ON THE LIFE FACED BY REFUGEES AT THE HOME OF NEW LABOUR

WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS. HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, JOHN WALSH, BRIAN VINER IARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Milestone as Trimble and Adams meet

THE NORTHERN Ireland peace By DAVID MCKITTRICK process yesterday passed another milestone with the first delegate meetings between Sinn Fein and David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party.

While Mr Trimble and Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams have held a number of meetings in the former's capacity as First Minister-designate, this was a formal party-to-party occasion which appears to be without precedeot in North-

Afterwards it was reported that little headway was made on key issues, in particular that of IRA arms decommissioning. But the atmosphere was described as businesslike, which is perhaps better than might have been expected for an encounter between two parties which have spent decades denouncing each other.

Mr Trimble's delegation included Ker. Maginnis MP, the party security spokesman, whose forthright style is said to have given rise to some tense moments, Participants added, however, that Unionist MP John Taylor had played a useful part in defusing these.

Mr Trimble said later: "We

Ireland Correspondent

hope the republican movement does realise the opportunity that is here, and does realise the obligation that the [Good Fridayl Agreement does place on them in the process to decommission their weapons. We hope that will take place in the next few weeks, but I cannot say that anything that did take place this morning gave me any

Mr Adams said: "Irish republicans and Ulster Unionists have to get it into our heads that we are on the one side. This is about pro-Agreement and anti-Agreement parties. The majority of the people on this island have voted in support of the Agreement. We are wedded to seeing it implemented in all

Mr Adams said he had asked for further meetings; Mr Trimble said he could not tell at this stage whether there would be more. The parties who support the Good Friday Agreement appear to have taken great heart from Tuesday's 77 to 29 Assembly vote in favour of new

Northern Ireland, though the decommissioning remains unresolved.

Mr Trimble later went from Belfast to London where vesterday evening he met Tony Blair in Downing Street, where earlier this week the Prime Minister met Mr Adams. In Belfast there is now a sense that the political pace is quickening.

Sinn Fein also met a delegation yesterday from the Presbyterian church for the first meeting between the two bodies. Afterwards the Presbyterian moderator, the Rev John Dixon, described decommissioning as both a moral issue and a political necessity. He added: "We recognise

there is a phenomenal gulf of trust between everybody in this whole situation. We have been pleading for decommissioning as a trust building exercise with the Unionist community, just as we have seen things like the release of prisoners for those in the republican community,"

Mr Dixon said he had no reason not to take republicans at their word on the peace process, but added: "We will look for ac-



Nigel Simms dressed as a Viking warrior yesterday in preparation for the Jolablot Viking festival in York which

Kidnap Briton freed in Nigeria

A BRITISH oil worker held hostage in southern Nigeria for seven days has been re-leased unharmed by his kidannounced yesterday.

Jim Simpson, abducted in the Delta region of Nigeria on February 9, was recovering in the southern town of Warri after his ordeal, according to Oiltools International, He was snatched in Warri with two coworkers, an Italian and a Nigerian, who have also been freed.

Joe Rovig, senior vice pres-ident for Oiltools (Europe and Africa), said Mr Simpson was being reunited in Warri with his wife and young son.

He said: "Our managers in the area have spoken to him. He is physically unharmed, but he was held for seven days, which is very trying as you can imag-

Mr Rovig said the company would see that both men had thorough medical checks to make sure they were fit. He added there was "absolutely no pressure" on Mr Simpson to return to work. He could "relax. unwind and spend time with his family and decide what to do"

"He is now back in control of his own life and the ball is in his court," Mr Rovig added.

He confirmed Mr Simpson was from England and in his late 30s, but declined to give any more details at the request of the family. He would not comment on whether a ransom had been paid to secure the hostages' release.

A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed Mr Simpson's freedom and said: "The British Vice Consul from Lagos is in Warri at the moment and heis assisting the company." The spokesman did not know if a ransom had been paid, adding: We were not directly involved in the negotiations.

On Monday, a British teacher, Martin Westbury from Lancashire, and his two-yearold son Benjamin were released unharmed by kidnappers in the same region.

Britain underlines commitment to Gibraltar

BRITAIN WARNED yesterday that there would be no compromise over the sovereignty of

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Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, Foreign Office minister, told the Lords that the Government regretted Spain's use of "border controls as a policy lever" in the row over fish-

By Trevor Mason

Answering an emergency question, she confirmed that the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, would meet the Spanish Foreign Minister, Abel Matutes, this weekend to discuss the dis-

The Tory foreign affairs spokesman, Lord Moynihan,

pressed her to "go one step further and take this opportunity to condemn unreservedly the Spanish threat to refuse to recognise Gibraltar driving licences, which is in direct contravention to European law".

But Lady Symons struck a conciliatory note, saying it was better to create the right atmosphere ahead of the talks on

Sunday, rather than "inflame" the situation. However, the minister stressed that Gibraltar driving licences were "valid under EU law and must be recognised by member states".

She said that delays at the border crossing with Spain had dropped from six hours to one hour but this was still unacceptable.

Lady Symons told peers: "The Government regrets the use of border controls as a policy lever and will continue to defend Gibraltar's legitimate

rights with determination. The keystone of our policy remains the 1969 commitment that we will never enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass

LIGHTING UP

5.37pm 5.25pm 5.30pm 5.27pm 5.20pm 5.24pm 5.18pm

HIGH TIDES

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Lord Moynihan, who had tabled the emergency question, condemned Spain's threat to ban civil flights to and from

For 24hrs to 2pm Wednesday

He urged the minister to concur with the senior Tory Sir

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her state to introduce an over-flight ban on civil aircraft of a European partner. YESTERDAY EXTREMES Coldest (day): Baltasound 1C (34F) Wattest: Barra 0.26 ins Semalest: Aldeburgh 3.2 hrs

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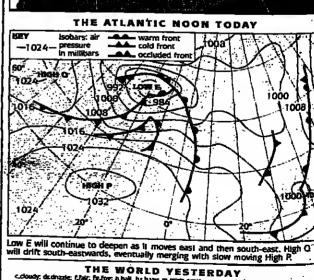
ereignty over Gibraltar was a

Lady Symons said it would

be "extraordinary and un-

precedented" for an EU mem-

non-starter.



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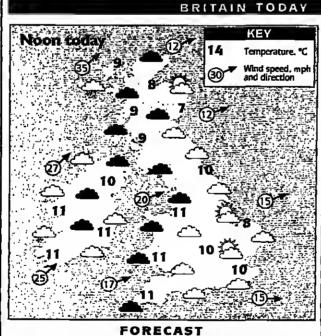
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FORECAST

Midlands, Cent 5 & Cent N England: Mild with occasional bright ning along but there will be a lot of cloud in general with the risk of ong the coast. A light westerly breeze. Max temp 9-11C (48-52F).

N Ireland: Rother breezy with some drizzly rain, especially this afternoon, but becoming very mild. A fresh south-west wind. Max temp 9-12C [48-54F]. SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, W Isles: Mainly cloudy with some druzzle but becoming very mild. A strong south-west wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F). SE & RE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, N Isles: Remaining overnight rain and snow clearing, then becoming much milder with a few sunny breaks. A frest to strong south-westerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

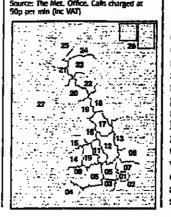
London: A12 Green Man Rounda

Scotland and Northern Ireland will become colder again later comorrow with sunny standard and wintry showers. England and Wales will stay mild but there will be heavy and prolonged rain. Colder everywhere over the weekend with wintry showers.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout.
Leytonstone. Major roadworks on new M11link road. Until 31st December
Cambridgeshtire A10 between Foxton and
M11. Resixtracing and bridge maintenance
work at Shepreth Mill. Until 14th February.
Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Foxadworks on
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und. Diversions in place. Until 1st June 6lic: A14 Febatowe Docks. Roedworks uniti 28th February. AA Roadmatch: Call 0336 401777 for the AA Hosomater: Call 9550 -- laxest local and national traffic r The Automobile Association, /

Sun rises: 07.10 Sun sess: 17.20 Moon rises:08.22 Moon sets: 20.13 First Quarter: Feb 23 3.2 0.01 WEATHERLINE for the latest forecasts dial 0891 5005 SHINE...



RAIN OR

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HEAVY SNOW has continued to cut off parts of central and eastern Europe with snowstorms yesterday isolating several villages and blocking major roads in the Czech Republic. About 50cms (19ins) of snow has fallen in the worsthit region of Bohemia in the north-west part of the country. Conditions have been made worse hy gale-force winds causing severe drifting. The army is clearing routes to

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Hospital deaths: Controversial doctor led trials in which parents were encouraged to accept experimental techniques

'No one told us that our babies could be harmed by this'

WHEN DEBBIE Henshall's daughter, Sofie, was born prematurely at the North Staffordshire Hospital in December 1992, doctors were worried about her breathing. Mrs Henshall reacted the way any parent would, "You must do the best for my baby," she said.

The best, it turned out, meant putting Sofie on a new type of ventilator imported from America, which was being tested at the hospital.

Her parents say they were unaware that the treatment was experimental and that Sofie was being included in a trial. She did not do well. Brain damage was diagnosed. The Henshalls said a specialist dated its origin to the period she spent on the machine. By the age of two it was clear she would be permanently disabled.

It was the second tragedy to strike the family. In February By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

1992, Sofie's sister, Stacey, had been born prematurely and also with breathing problems. She had been on the same ventilator but she had died. The questions for the in-

quiry ordered by the Health minister Baroness Hayman are expected to be what the parents were told about the trial, whether it was properly approved and monitored by the hospital's ethics committee and whether it was allowed to continue after it should have been obvious many babies were dying or being permanently

Carl and Debbie Henshall assumed that the double tragedy which struck their family they have six other children who are well - was due to the girls' prematurity, which they

had received the normal care given to any premature baby. They say they did not know they were part of an experiment involving 122 babies treated

> The Henshalls declined to talk about their experience ahead of giving evidence to the inquiry ordered by Lady

> But in earlier interviews they were angry and dismayed

In 1997 Debbie said: "I believe that if both our girls had been given the normal treatment for breathing difficulties Stacey would be alive today and Sofie would be happily runbetween 1989 and 1993, of ning around. Babies shouldn't whom 43 died or suffered brain be treated as pieces of meat."

The experiment, led by Professor David Southall and Dr Martin Samuels, was designed to see whether there was a better way of helping premature babies breathe than the standard method of inserting tubes

knew carried high risks. But at the way they claim they down their throats and blowing they also believed that they were kept in the dark, air into their lungs under "positive pressure", which sometimes caused rupture of the

immature tissues. Instead babies were placed in a low-pressure chamber like an old iron lung, with a seal around their necks, which inflated their lungs by a technique

known as "continuous negative

(CNEP), avoiding the need to insert tubes down their throats.

But a report of the trial published in the US journal Pediatrics in December 1996 noted differences in the blood flow through the brain in the CNEPtreated babies, visible on ultrasound. The ventilators are no longer used for premature baThe Henshalls said the first

they knew that their daughters bad been involved in an experimeot was four years later when they consulted a specialist in Leeds who told them about the trial. They said the new treatment was offered to

boo in cootrast to the "horrors" of the cooventional option.

"We felt damn lucky. It was literally sold to us," they said. They are now considering legal action against the North Staffordshire Hospital Trust, as are five other couples. They are among 18 families who have complained to the General



extra-thoracic bies but are still used for older

Doctor criticised earlier

DAVID SOUTHALL is no stranger to controversy. As professor of paediatrics at Keele University and consultant paediatrician at North Staffordshire Hospital, he has been involved in three high-profile research studies which bave made him many enemies.

The first was the ventilator study (described above). The secood involved covert video surveillance of pareots suspected of child abuse - broadcast as "Someone to watch over me", shown oo Channel 4 last month - that has put him in the line of fire from families who claimed they were falsely

The third study involved depriving infants of oxygen to simulate the effects of a long flight. The aim was to test claims that prolonged air travel increased the likelihood of cot death, but he was accused of putting lives at risk. Of 34 ba-

BY JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor .

Parents say guinea-pig' trial killed their babies

The Independent on Sunday', 11 May 1997

bies given air containing 6 per cent less oxygen than normal, similar to that in an aircraft cabin, four showed signs of distress and had to be given immediate extra oxygen.

Professor Southall's work in child abuse infuriated some parents who say they have been falsely accused. In an interview with the British Medical Journal last year he said

he had been repeatedly threat-ened, his charity had been infiltrated and burgled and research grants and international aid had been blocked. A consultant paediatrician,

Colin Morley, formerly of Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, who oow works in Australia, described his covert videotaping of parents suspected of child abuse as a "dangerous and deceptive game". Professor Soothall is unre-

pentant. He told the BMJ: "No one likes a covert investigation . It is in my opinion justified if there is oo other way of iden-

tifying child abuse. His supporters include some of the most eminent names in the profession, who cite a landmark study of cot death conducted at the Royal Brompton Hospital, London, in the 1980s as evideoce of his research pedigree. That demonstrated that apnoea, the tendency of ba-

bies to stop breathing for short periods, which had been suspected as a cause of cot death. played no role in the condition.

His supporters believe the inquiry has been made inevitable by the accusations of his enemies and will clear his

His detractors believe that his readiness to court cootroversy and to press research to its ethical limit was demonstrated in the study in which ba bies were deprived of oxygen. The North Staffordshire Hospital's own research ethics committee initially rejected the proposal because of fears about the possible danger to the babies involved.

It later relented after reassurances from Professor Southall that a paediatrician would be on permanent standby and there would be no coercion of parents to allow their babies to take part.

Fad for wholemeal carves up traditional Paris baguette

By JOHN LICHFIELD

THE BAGUETTE, one of the cliché symbols of France, is in gentle but unmistakable decline, squeezed between a youthful taste for wholemeal bread and the rise of the factory-made bread stick.

These were the depressing conclusions of a survey of the bread-eating babits of the French, published by the newspaper Le Figuro, yesterday. Although 80 per cent of the bread eaten in France still comes in the shape of long, slender, white loaves, there has been a rapid decline in the sales of true baguettes (and their larger sisters, pains) in

recent years. Starting from zero 19 years ago, the sales of cheaper, fac-tory-made, chemically-assisted baguettes have risen to 30 per cent of the market. Such bread is cheaper - only 30p to 40p a baguette - but spongy and tasteless compared with the



Wholemeal bread is steadily ousting the baguette

(costing 40p to £1 a piece).

also been identified. People in their twenties and thirties are turning away from baguettes of eyes of such people, Le Figaro

crisp, fresh, hand-made loaves concludes, the baguette is a for which France is celebrated symbol of an "outdated, caricature France, comparable to Another menacing trend has the beret and the pitcher of cheap, red wine".

In truth, history is coming full circle. The baguette is a reall kinds towards wholemeal, atively recent invention of longer-lasting bread. In the urban bakers in the 1920s and 1930s. The traditional French the consumer."

bread of the 18th and 19th centuries, the shortage of which Queen Marie Antoinette apocryphally dismissed ("Let them eat cake"), was like the flat, wholemeal loaves oow favoured by the fashionable young.

Sixty years is loog enough to create a tradition, however. Bakers who make their own baguettes by the old methods loog fermentation of the dough, followed by baking in brick ovens - want the government to ban the use of the title "boulangerie" by the shops that simply warm up ready-mixed, factory-made dough. Such a rule was imposed in 1995 but overturned

on appeal René Saint-Ouen, frequent winner of the award for the best baguettes in France, baked at his shop oo the Boulevard Haussmann in Paris, said: "Industrial baguettes are the negation of true bread. They taste like nothing and disgust

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Monsanto is fined for GM 'pollution'

Environmeot Correspondent

THE CONTROVERSY surrounding genetically modified food continued yesterday when Monsanto, the US biotech company, which is the world's biggest promoter of GM products, was fined £17,000 for "genetic pollution" and then immediately vowed to fight any British moratorium on the growing of GM crops.

In the first prosecution of its kind in Britain, the Health and Safety Executive charged the company with failing to prevent pollen from genetically modified crops from being released into the environment at a trial site in Lincolnshire.

Monsanto admitted the offence and was also ordered by magistrates at Caistor, Lincolnshire, to pay £6,159 costs. Another company charged

with a similar offence at the same site, the seed producer Perryfields Holdings, was fined £14,000 and ordered to pay

The case was another set-

ernment's wildlife adviser, has called for such a delay before such crops are grown commercially because of the dan-

attempt to convince the public that genetically modified food plants present no risk, in cultivation or consumption.

The Food Safety minister, Jeff Rooker, insisted after the hearing that there was a "rohust" regulatory system in place and that consumer protection was the Government's top priority, hut Friends of the Earth denounced Monsanto's fine as "pathetic," and William Hague, the Leader of the Opposition, said that a Conservative peer would introduce a private member's Bill in the Lords to impose a three-year

gers to wildlife of the new weedkillers developed to go Monsanto said it would resist any such move, if necessary by appealing to the European

> The court heard that both Monsanto and Perryfields were using the plot at Rothwell to test-grow varieties of oilseed rape that had been genetically modified to be tolerant of particular weedkillers.

> was to keep a six-metre-wide pollen barrier of non-GM crops around the modified crops, to prevent modified pollen mixing with normal plants in the area. But an HSE inspection found that the pollen barrier

A condition of their licences

had been cut back in some places to just two metres to put in a roadway, and improve the look of the site.

An HSE inspector, Andrew Tommey, also found a gap had

crops and the pollen-barrier of their licences were being folcrops, creating what he de-scribed as a "wind tunnel", al-

lowing pollen to escape. Simon Parrington, for the prosecution, said no one from he said. either company bothered to

backby an employee of the firm it easier to get at the trial hired to manage the site.

"Neither company had taken Rhodri Price Lewis, for the sufficient steps to make sure defence of both companies, told that the barriers were in place, the court: "An employee who was not aware of the consent The companies said the regulations moved and re-tolerant crops might carry

Friends of the Earth demonstrators on the field used by Monsanto for GM crops at Rothwell, near Caistor in Lincolnshire

plants. This was not an act which was under the control of these companies."

A concern of ecologists is that pollen from herbicide-

by wild plants, so producing

But Dan Verakis of Monsanto said after the hearing that the chance of GM pollen affecting other crops in the area

Sainsbury firm has holding in US biotechnology



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interests held in trust

made a major investment in an American hiotechnology firm a few weeks before becoming a minister, The Independent has

learned. The company, Paradigm Genetics, recently teamed up with the German pharmaceutical and chemical company Bayer in a deal which earned It around £26m.

Paradigm will also receive herbicide-resistant crops are grown commercially.

John Redwood, the Conser-

LORD SAINSBURY of Turville By Fran Abrams Westminster Correspondent

> tion provided further evidence that the minister's position was

"He is very committed to this technology and has had a very wide range of husiness interests in it, some of which con-

"It makes it even more important that he should get his success fees from Bayer if its story straight about what he is allowed to do in government." Lord Sainshury, the science

minister at the centre of a row vative trade and industry overgenetically modified food, spokesman, said the revela- is not directly involved in li- business comes through two

censing the products hut does firms - Innotech and Diatech, is based in the grounds of the sit on a cabinet committee on hiotechnology.

Innotech Investments Ltd. a firm funded by Lord Sainsbury but placed in a trust with his other husiness interests when he became a minister, is named on Paradigm's web site as one of three major investors who put a total of £8m into the com-

The release is dated 1 July 1998 – four weeks before Lord Sainsbury became science min-

Lord Sainshury's direct involvement in the biotechnology

Innotech owns Floranova, a plant breeding company and Elite Seeds, a seed and plant distribution company, both of which are based in Norfolk and both of which are developing ge-

netically modified plants. Diatech is directly involved in "natural science engineering". Lord Sainsbury's charity, the Gatsby Foundation, has put more than £2m a year into the study of plant science since 1990, most of which has been

used to set to set up the Sainsbury Laboratory in Norwich. The laboratory is developing genetically modified crops and

John Innes Centre, the higgest genetic research campus in Paradigm has a scientific

advisory board which includes the head of molecular genetics from the John Innes Centre, Michael Bevan. Lord Sainsbury has said he

will step aside from ministerial decisions on genetically modified food, but is in charge of the overall budget of the Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council.

The council gives the Sains-£300,000 per year in funding no chance of success.

through the University of East Anglia. A spokesman for Lord Sainsbury said he had placed all his interests in a trust as soon as he became a minister.

"The nature of this thing is that he doesn't know if he still owns it and he doesn't have any connections with its current activities," he said. The Conservative leader

William Hague tried to put new pressure on the Government by announcing that his party would introduce a measure in the House of Lords to place a

moratorium on GM crops. bury Laboratory more than ... The measure would have



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THE CASE FOR GM FOOD

Doing what comes naturally

modified food is that it is "unnatural". Why should we be forced to eat something that is the product of a scientist's sterile laboratory rather than experience with BSE has shown us what can go wrong when the "experts" start messing around with the

human food chain. In fact we have been messing around with the human food chain for thousands of years. It hegan when the first farmers started to select strains of plants and animals

to produce, eventually, the crops and livestock we are fa-miliar with today.

By selecting the physical traits of a plant or animal — Mother Nature? After all, our and discarding others - humans hijacked the forces of natural selection to produce what are in effect artificial lifeforms that would not exist in nature. An organically grown corn on the cob or free-range hen is no more natural than an English garden. Each is the

product of human innovation. GM is about taking this a stage further by tinkering di-

THE WORD on everyone's lips that could be selectively hred rectly with the genes of a global population. It could also when it comes to genetically under unnatural conditions plant or animal. This can involve the transfer of DNA from one species to another, a rare hut not impossible event in nature. It means the genetic selection can be targeted, unlike the trial and error of the past. But, like any innovation.

> it poses new risks. The potential henefits include crops that are inherently resistant to pests, which might mean fewer agrochemicals being sprayed on farmland. It could bring crops resistant to drought for the developing world, or more nutritious sta

ues to become a monocultural desert for wildlife including the insects and microbes that now eat 40 per cent of what we grow - which began long before the appli-

cation of genetics to farming. GM technology could be a force for bad as well as good. Which way it goes depends on what we decide to do with it and the safeguards we impose. A ban would mean we have thrown out the potential good with the possible bad.

STEVE CONNOR

THE CASE AGAINST

Fields where birds don't sing

YOU MAY never have heard of Green Concrete, but that's the idea behind much of the opposition to genetically modified food plants. It means a field devoid of all wildlife - insects, wildflowers, hirds or animals - a field that is full of genetically engineered crops, but otherwise sterile.

It's what the Government's own environmental scientists fear Britain's farmland may turn into, once it is filled with new plants, which are being genetically engineered to be tolerant of a new generation of extremely powerful weed-

This is the purpose of the vast majority of the hundreds of GM crops currently on trial in Britain. Get it straight: these are not tomatoes modified to taste sweeter or last

They are nearly all oilseed rape, sugar beet and soybeans, which have been engineered by one of the hig biotech companies such as Monsanto, Zeneca or AgrEvo, to be tolerant of just one individual new weedkiller which



Skylarks have declined due to intensive farming

that company itself produces. These weedkillers – Monsanto's Roundup is the best known - are "broad spectrum" herbicides that, directly or indirectly, will kill everything in the field but the crops themselves.

The companies claim that less of them can be used, and so they are environmentally friendly, but the argument is partridge and the corn

disingenuous as it confuses dosage with impact: the first might be less but the second

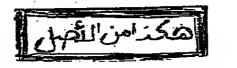
is certainly greater. The prospect of their widespread use is alarming to anyone who has watched the catastrophic decline, because of intensive farming practices. of once-familiar farmland birds such as the skylark, the

bunting. And it is the reason for the remarkable call from the Government's own wildlife adviser, English Nature, and its sister agencies in Wales and Scotland, for a three-year moratorium on the commercial growing of GM crops until a proper assessment is made of the effects on wildlife of the deadly new herhicides they come with.

Neither English Nature nor any other government body has called for a moratorium on the consumption of GM food but the call for a delay in commercial crop planting has been misinterpreted, not least by the Tory leader, William Hague, in questioning Tony Blair a fort-

night ago. While the food issue is more emotive with the public - why should we trust your assurances that a new and untried foodstuff is safe when you misled us over BSE? - it is the Green Concrete argument that has the solid scientific backing.

MICHAEL MCCARTHY ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT



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der of Stephen Lawrence is understood to be planning a breakaway anti-racist movement hecause he is disillusioned with the way the official campaign has been handled.

Duwayne Brooks's reported split from the broad-based civil rights movement due to be launched at a rally next month by the Lawrence family's barrister, Michael Mansfield QC. follows long-running frustrations with the campaign to

His friends say he has been suppressing his distillusion over the way the Lawrence campaign has been conducted and is now ready to act independently. He is understood to fear

that Mr Mansfield's organisation will be remote from the south London community and will suffer from the presence of "too many" members of the political and legal élite.

The alternative, grassroots campaign being planned by Mr Brooks and his friends is called the Independent Civil Rights Movement and is to be launched next month, according to the London Evening

The strained relations between Mr Brooks and the Lawrence family surfaced on Tuesday night, just a week before Sir William Macpherson of Chuny is due to make public his



Duwayne Brooks, angry at the Lawrence family

report into the police handling ton Taylor's The Colour of Jus-

They were all at a meeting following a performance at a London theatre of Richard Nor-



Mike Crabtree/Reuters

tice, a drama based on the Lawrence inquiry. Mr Brooks, 24, clashed with Stephen's father, Neville, and

Mr Mansfield over their endorsement of a film about the Lawrence inquiry which is due to be shown on ITV today. He reportedly criticised the

Yvette Vanson, co-produced the two-hour "factual dramatisation" entitled The Murder of Stephen Lawrence. He said he felt "very bitter".

Mr Brooks also attacked the family for failing to lend their support to a Movement for Justice march last Saturday, when more than 1,000 people walked from Brixton to Downing Street to demand government action over racist crime.

Mr Lawrence said: "I have never dictated to people what demonstration they should be on or events they should support. I have only ever advised people to support the things we are doing."

Mr Lawrence also ex-

film. The Murder of Stephen Lawrence.

He said: "I was naturally concerned about having a film about our lives and about the murder of our son. But I think the film succeeds far better than I could ever have believed.

Stephen's mother, Doreen, said: "I hope that this film will in some way begin to show people what the last six years has been like for my family and I, and how, but for racism and shocking incompetence, it could all have been so easily

Mr Brooks, who was with Stephen when he was murdered, feels he has been igEarlier this year, he said that he blamed himself for Stephen's death. He said he regretted not forcing him to go a different route home after they both went to Stephen's uncle's

At the private prosecution brought by the Lawrence family, Mr Brooks's identification evidence was ruled inadmissihle by the judge, leading to the collapse of the case in 1996. He has suffered post-traumatic stress disorder and was too upset to give evidence at the public inquiry.

Mr Brooks's solicitnr, Jane Deighton, said last night that he would not comment on the new

£450,000 for the cream of guitars

THE ROCK star Eric Clapton By PAUL MCCANN put a small part of his collection of classic electric guitars on show at Christie's in London yesterday ahead of a sale of 100 of the instruments this summer to raise money for charity.

Andy Fairweather-Low, a

longtime member of Ciapton's band, put 15 of them through their Slowhand paces for onlookers. The guitars on show included "Brownie", the 1956 Fender Sunburst Stratocaster on which Clapton first played his classic song "Layla".

Fairweather-Low, a former singer with the Sixties pop band Amen Corner, played through "Cocaine", "Layla" and "I Shot the Sheriff".

Brownie is expected to raise £80,000 when it goes on sale in June in New York, Other guitars have been donated by musician friends including Mark Knopfler, lead guitarist with Dire Straits. Other instruments has used since his early days with the band Cream.

Money from the auction will go to the Crossroads Centre in Antigua, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation unit founded by Clapton and named after the classic blues number by Robert Johnson, the alcoholic king of the Louisiana delta blues. It took Clapton 30 years to build his guitar collection but after selling 100 this summer he will still have 50 left to play.

The collection is expected to raise £450,000, but some of the guitars have a reserve price of as little as £1,000.

Clapton's collection features in one of the great rock and roll myths. According to the story, Steve Jones, from the Sex Pistols, was found passed out drunk by Clapton in a London club. Being a kind soul, Clapton took him home and laid him out on his sofa to sleep it off. When Jones awoke, he was struck by included a rare Gibson Ex- fear and momentary panic. He plorer made in 1958, a 1974 Mar- had looked up and all around tin steel-string acoustic, and a was the greatest collection of 1956 Gibson, which Clapton guitars he had ever seen - so gone to Heaven. .



Andy Fairweather-Low with 'Brownie', the 1956 Fender Sunburst Stratocaster on which Eric Clapton first played his classic song 'Layla'

Virgin to end subscription * fees for access to Internet

THE PRESSURE on Internet By Charles Arthur companies to offer free access intensified yesterday, with the announcement by Richard Branson's Virgin net that from April its users will not have to pay the monthly £11.99 charge.

pany to reverse an established year. policy of charging a subscription, although start-up Internet denied they would follow Vircompanies have already followed the lead of Dixons' Freeserve, by which the user only pays the telephone charge while connected. But David Clarke, chief executive of Virgin, is certain his company will

"I think they will all have to do the same," he said. "You can the providers making any either keep the money yourself or pass it back to your customers – and we have decided

Virgin announced the move to its 150,000 subscribers in an overnight email. People who have already paid will be refunded, it said.

Technology Editor

Forgoing the charge will cost Virgin more than £21m annually, but the company hopes to make up for that by attracting Virgin.net is the first com- a million subscribers within a

> Other Internet companies gin's move, but Tim Pearson. chairman of the Internet Service Providers' Association (ISPA), commented: "There is pressure on the other paid-for ISPs. We are entering a period of instability which could end up with everybody going over to free services, but only a few of

money from them." Virgin has joined at least five major groups now offering free Internet access. The key is Britain's 40-odd independently licensed telecoms companies. which provide the final link to the Internet from the national phone network.

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Richard Branson: Plans

The companies earn money as people use their network and if enough people use the otherwise "dark" optical fibre, the companies recoup their in-

Last September, the High

Street store Dixons launched Freeserve, the first free-access service, in partnership with the Energis telecoms company. Since then Freeserve has acquired more than 900,000 subscribers - making it both the biggest and the fastest-growing ISP in the UK.

If Virgin can emulate that, it can raise its charges for advertising on its Web site. As part of a £50m investment, the Virgin group also intends to offer more electronic commerce services for Virgin products such as CDs, airlines and financial

However the move could be a costly mistake. The telecoms watchdog Oftel will next week publish its opinion on whether the prices for calls which end on lines belonging to different telecoms companies should be

That could reduce revenues to smaller companies - and cut the financial floor from under

Compaq may offer free PCs

COMPAQ, THE world's largest By PETER THAL LARSEN computer-maker, has hinted it sumers in a move that could turn the industry on its head.

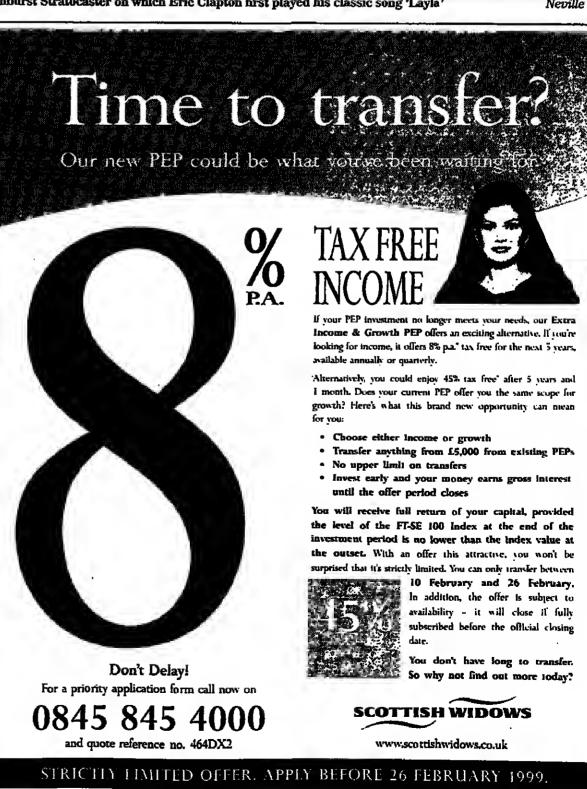
Eckhard Pfeiffer, president and chief executive, said it was looking at the idea, pioneered by Free-PC, a California-based company, this month. Mr Pfeiffer said: "We are the

world market leader ... and could make PCs available in and spending habits. millions of homes that do not have them. Mr Pfeiffer's comments come a week after Free-PC rocked the industry by proposing to give away 10,000 computers. Customers will have to agree to spend at least

might offer free PCs to con- 10 hours a week in front of their computer Free-PC plans to pay for the cost of the PCs by permanently showing advertising messages and links to internet sites on the screen.

The idea struck a chord with customers. In the past week about 500,000 users have registered for a computer with we are looking at what is hap-pening here." The initiative questionnaire on their incomes

PC prices have been falling rapidly and basic machines are as little as \$600 (£375) in the US. But the notion of giving away hardware to sell more services has yet to be tested in the highly competitive PC market.



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Brussels insists duty free must end

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

BRUSSELS DROVE a gail into the coffin of duty-free shopping yesterday, rejecting calls from the biggest EU governmeets and the industry for even a temporary reprieve.

British ministers and campaigners immediately vowed to fight on, calling on Tony Blair and other EU heads of government to overrule the European Commission's recommendation that abolition should go ahead as planned at the end of June. EU diplomats said finance ministers could order the Commission back to the drawing board

But ministers privately admit they have all but lost the fight for duty free. The focus is turning to its successor. Dawn Primarolo, the Paymaster General, said: "We oeed to make it clear the successor regime proposed by the Commissioo is fraught with problems."

"This is disappointing but it is not the end of the road," said Brenda O'Brien of the European Federation of Transport



The death knell sounds for duty-free shopping as the European commissioners reject British calls to delay the June date for abolition

Unions. "Clearly the Commisprime ministers by providing an incomplete picture of the impact on jobs and by refusing to seriously consider the pos-

sibility of an extension. It raission has soubbed the wishes of es the question of who runs Europe. Is it the prime ministers or is it the unelected

In a long-awaited report the

Commission conceded that EU commissioner for the sin-burden on all taxpayers. "We short-term job losses would flow from scrapping the tax concession, possibly as many as 53,000, about 5,000 of them in Britain. But Mario Monti, the sidy to one industry and was a companies concerned, it would

gle market, said this was oot enough to justify a change of

He said duty free was a sub-

do very little for employment." considered the possibility of a Mr Monti said. limited extension but we con-

cluded, while this would of abolition of tax-free sales in the absence of harmonised VAT course help the profits of the and excise would lead to farcical scenes on cross-channel ferries, with the price of alcohol changing four times as the ferry moved from one country's waters into another's.

He said that VAT will be levied at the rate applying in the country of departure. A ferry leaving Dover for Calais would

charge VAT at the British rate but the French rate would apply for the return.

But the rules are different for excise duty on drink and cigarettes. Here the rate to be charged is the rate applying in the country where the goods are loaded - the British rate in the case of a boat leaving Dover. But it changes as soon as the vessel or aircraft moves into new waters or airspace.

"At that point the operator of the service can either stop selling the goods, in which case there is no problem, or goods can continue to be sold - in which UK excise is applied," Mr Monti said.

Vic Moorcraft of P&O ferries said the rules were "unworkable". P&O accepted the 1991 decision abolishing duty free as a logical extension of a single market, but harmonised rates of VAT and excise bad never materialised, he said.

The Commission's report now goes to EU finance ministers where a unanimous decision would be needed to reopen the file. Britain, Germany and France are backing a five-year extension but Denmark is hostile to any rethink.

As a gesture of solidarity with travellers, Mr Monti said he had agreement from the Commission to study the scrapping of the generous tax-free perks for commissioners on wine, spirits and cigarettes.



Firms spying on their workers

FTRMS ARE increasingly using surveillance on their workforce, ranging from closed circuit TV and infra-red transmitters to undercover staff, according to a new report. Techniques being used by employers represent an "alarming" threat to the privacy of workers, warned the Institute of Employment Rights.

Cigarette additive fear for young A COALITION of bealth groups demanded the banning of additives that allegedly make the taste of cigarettes more appealing to children. Groups, including the British Medical Association, warned that sweetening additives could make cigarettes more palatable to under-16s.

Doctor cleared of assaults

DOCTOR PETER Thornton was cleared yesterday of six counts of indecently assaulting four women during medical examinations. Outside Nottingham Crown Court he said: "I am delighted to be completely vindicated." He had said his bedside manner was "direct and forthright".

British balloon starts mission

THE FIRST all-British balloon bid to circle the globe was launched from a golf course in Almeria, Spain yesterday. The pilot, Andy Elson, 45, and co-pilot, Colin Prescot, 48. hope to get far enough sooth to avoid Chinese airspace.

PAUL VALLELY



The US, the Pope said, **'bears the stamp of** the culture of death'

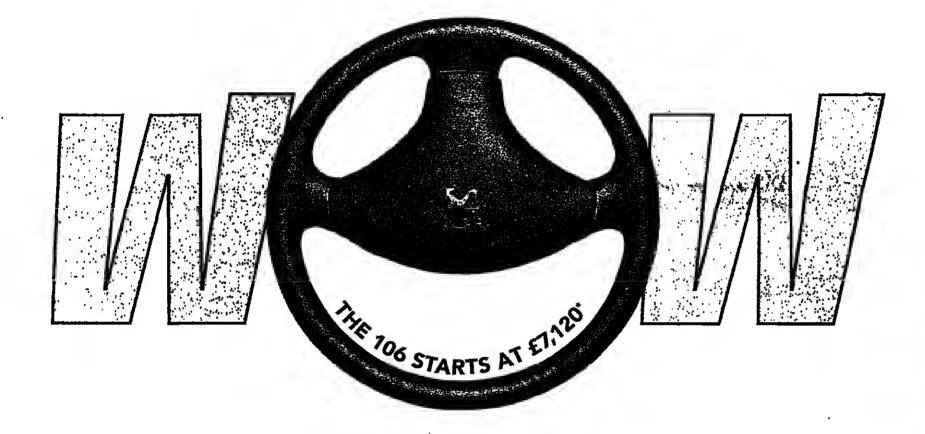
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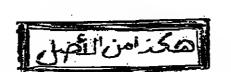
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Plans to cut coastguard under attack

BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

THE CLOSURE of five coastguard stations would have a "serious impact" on safety at sea and must be cancelled, a cross-party committee of MPs reported yesterday.

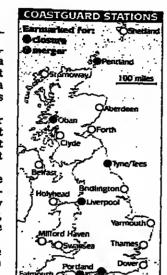
The Select Committee for the Environment, Transport and the Regions warned that cutting costs should not be put ahead of saving lives.

The MPs also called on the Government to undo the merger of the Coastguard Agency and Marine Safety Agency, which was completed only nine months ago.

The newly formed Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) wants to close four of the 21 centres - at Liverpool, Oban in Argyllshire, Pentland in Orkney, and Tyne - and merge two others, at Lee-on-the-Solent in Hampshire and Portland in Dorset, to create a new centre.

The MCA refused to comment on the MPs' report, but a well-placed source said that modern stations were a vast improvement on the "shabby" stations of previous decades.

"There has never been a



better time to sink your ship or set fire to your boat. There has never been a promise better kept than that, as technology increased, stations would be reduced but become bigger and better manned," the source commented.

In their report, the MPs said: "We are extremely worried about the closure programme,

that remain might be overloaded with work, particularly in the event of a major incident, that threatened stations might be blighted and about the effect

of the programme on staff." The committee said the plan, which would lead to 78 job losses, would save only £500,000 and would be inexpensive to halt. "The Coastguard is an extremely effective, and very cheap, service of which we should all be proud," the report

"We do not accept that now when the number of incidents dealt with by the Coastguard is rising steeply, when the average cost of responding to each in-cident has fallen so sharply, and when our record compares so favourably with other countries, is the time to close maritime rescue co-ordination

The MPs' report said local knowledge was "fundamental" for coastguards, helping them to respond quickly and well to incidents, thus saving lives.

"The closure programme, by requiring watch officers to



local knowledge to such an extent that its value will be reduced, with a potentially very serious impact on the performance of the Coastguard

The committee said it did not believe the MCA could deliver better safety and environmen-

separately: "We recommend that the two agencies should be demerged and that the Coastguard Agency and MSA be reestablished," it said.

"In doing so, the agencies and the Government should remember that the best way of protecting seafarers, vessels and the general public is not necessarily the cheapest way. but the way which prevents pollution, ensures that ships do not get into difficulties in the first place, and above all saves

The coastguards' workload has increased steadily. In 1987 they were involved in 5,563 incidents compared with 11,667 in 1997, a rise of 110 per cent. In 1997 they helped 16,884 people

the committee's recommenda period, the number of lives lost remained constant, at about 250

with each incident fell, The Public and Commercial Services Union said the report vindicated its opposition to the closure of coastguard stations. "We wholeheartedly endorse

a year, and the cost of dealing

tion to keep them open - it is the only sensible course of action, Ministers should now hall the closures before lives are put at risk."

Until the late 1970s there were coasignard watch posts every few miles. As lechnolog improved, station numbers fell lo 28 in 1979 and 21 loday

GPs fear nurses' pay bill will cut drug use

THE DEPARTMENT of Health is By Colin Brown investigating claims that family doctors will have to ration drugs to fund inflation-busting pay rises for nurses and other

Health authorities across Britain are warning they will have to reduce their drug budgets, leading to rationing, to meet the pay rises of 4.7 cent for most nurses.

The investigation threatens to reopen the row over rationing of drugs, including Viagra, the anti-impotence drug. and expensive treatments such as Beta Interferon to relieve the symptoms of multiple scierosis.

Morecambe Bay Health Authority was making budget cuts to reduce a £500,000 overspend on prescribing this year and warned it may cut deeper into the drug budget.

We may even have to reduce the overspend by as much Chief Political Correspondent

bealth authority spokesman, Allan Muirhead. In Manchester, the health au-

thority is considering cuts in hospital services. A spokesman said: "This will have to come by not making investments in the

authority was trying to save would have to save an additional film to fund the pay rise.

In Wales, one health au-thority said the Welsh Office had allocated only 2.5 per cent extra for medical services. "It is going to be very difficult to maintain, develop or modernise services," said a spokesman for Bro Taf health authority. Senior doctors in Glouces

tershire said their local GPs' drugs budgets would be cut by as 60 or 65 per cent,' said the 2 per cent, about £1m, double the pay rises.

Ministers said claims in the survey by Pulse magazine would be investigated. But there was also ministerial anger at "shroud-waving" by health authorities to cause maximum embarrassment to the Government. "They have no waiting list initiative." reason to do this," said a senior
North West Anglia health ministerial source. "We provided ecough for fair and affordable pay increases and the funds are there.

The Tory health spokesman. Ann Widdecombe, has chal-lenged Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, to admit rationing is already going on. Her deputy, Alan Duncan, said: "The government lie machine has been rumbled. They are talking about big pay awards but they are squeezing health authorities to pay for them. Patient care is going to

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Hughes hint over Lib Dem contest

THE LIBERAL Democrat MP Simoo Hughes in effect threw his hat into the leadership ring to replace Paddy Ashdown this summer hy ruling himself out of the race for mayor of London.

The MP for Southwark North and Bermondsey cleared the way for a bid when he said yesterday that be would not put his name forward for the mayoral job. Although he did not formally announce his intention to stand, he told The Independent what he would do if the leadership was his.

He would not tear up Mr Ashdown's deal with Tony Blair would "call a pause" after the election. He would not accept a seat in a Labour government - which Mr Ashdown was prepared to do - unless the number of Liberal Democrat MPs

was greatly increased. "It would be wrong for any new leader to tear up the arrangement we have for this parliament. It is a contract ... The issue is what position a new leader will take after the next election, and that should be London election. As a popular open for consultation with the

Mr Hughes, who bas to abide by rules forbidding a formal bid for the leadership until after the European elections in June, also said he would be prepared to work with 'progressives", Labour or Tory.

On Britain's entry to the single European currency, he said the Liberal Democrats would back Labour in getting legislation through the Commons, against anti-European left-wing Labour MPs if necessary.

On taking a seat in a Labour cabinet, he said: "Unless you have a legitimate balance between the size of the two parBY COLIN BROWN AND PAUL WAUGH

small party, in terms of seats, to do a deal with a big party." Charles Kennedy, frontrunner for the Liberal Democrat leadership, has the backing of grandees, led by Lord Jenk-ins of Hillhead and, in spite of Downing Street denials, it is claimed be would have Mr Blair's support to continue the modernisation "project" with Labour. Mr Kennedy has the edge with his high public profile but Mr Hughes will seek the support of the party rank and over closer co-operation, but file, who have a one-member

> Mr Hughes, the health spokesman, plans to mount his challenge with a policy pamphlet focusing on public services. Under his leadership he would seek to make the Liberal Democrats the party of opposition instead of the Tories.

Mr Hughes's move ends speculation about his inteotions to become the Liberal Democrat candidate in May's London MP, he was viewed as his party's best bope for winning the contest for Britain's first directly elected mayor.

But he indicated that Mr Ashdown's decision to stand down had forced him to change "I will this summer be in-

volved in a party leadership election, whether or not as a candidate I would not be able to commit myself wboleheartedly to either campaign if I tried to be involved in both," he said.

Mr Hughes is seen as the standard bearer of the left wing of the Liberal Democrats and has warned of the dangers of Mr Ashdown's strategy of clos-



Rhodri Morgan, who is campaigning to be First Secretary of the Welsh Assembly, in Cardiff's docklands with the assembly building in the background

Morgan is promised 'major role' to end split

LABOUR WILL not win control By PAUL WAUGH of the Welsh Assembly this May unless it can heal the divisions caused by the party's bitter battle over who will be its First Secretary, the Welsh Of-fice minister, Peter Hain, has

Mr Hain said that Labour voters would not turn out unless the party, "gets its act togeth-

Political Correspondent

between Alun Michael, the Welsh Secretary, and the backbencher Rhodri Morgan.

In an attempt to end the acrimony that has characterised the three-month race, Mr Hain revealed that, win or lose, Mr Morgan would be offered a "major role" in Labour's cam- pected to be extremely close as rebels would team up with na-

tion on 6 May.

As the Morgan and Michael camps put in their final efforts before the leadership ballot ends tomorrow, Mr Hain said he was confident that the Welsh Secretary would win "but it

will not be by a mile". The result, which will be announced on Saturday, is ex-

paign to win the Assembly elec-tion on 6 May. an electoral college of trade mions, MPs and assembly candidates decides who will stand for the first "Prime Minister of

> Mr Hain poured scorn on speculation that Mr Morgan could stage a GLC-style "coup" to become First Secretary if be lost the leadership contest. Under this scenario, Labour

Downing Street's wishes. "I Wales Labour Party. Morale would rule that out 300 per cent. had to be restored after rows There's not a cat in hell's over twinning constituencies. chance of that happening. The MEP selection and the resig-Wales Labour Party is a very self-disciplined party. Wales

post-May 1981," he said. that the events of the past year had resulted in the "biggest cri- past year in Wales."

tionalists to elect him despite sis in its modern history" for the nation of Ron Davies.

"I think we will need to do a post-May 1999 is not London lot of work in rebuilding morale and confidence in the grass However, Mr Hain claimed roots of the part because that has been battered over the



ties then it is dangerous for a er co-operation with Labour. | Straw: Young are betrayed

Straw condemns 'walk on by' society

JACK STRAW has called for the BY PAUL WAUGH public to end the "walk on by" society and intervene when to set children clear standards crimes.

In an article in today's New Statesman, the Home Secretary suggests adults should not be afraid to tell off youngsters when they misbehave.

they see children committing and that everyone had a "mutual responsibility for the maintenance of order

"Somewhere along the line we as a society started to feel that what other people's children got up to in public was none He said that it was important of our business - it was a job

solely for their parents or everyone had a role to play in people. If we ignore young teachers or police officers," he

"Today how many of us, seeing a group of 11 or 12-year-olds vandalising a phone box or picking on a younger child, would actually intervene? Yet if we do not, who will?"

Mr Straw said that he want-

confronting "the low-level disorder and disrespect" that

leads on to more serious crime. "If we want to live our lives free from crime, we must recognise that we all have a responsibility to help reduce it,"

"A walk on by' society ed the public to realise that betrays the interests of young

people when they are causing trouble, we start to ignore them when they are in danger.

"We all have an interest in children growing up into responsible members of the community. That can only happen if we support parents in setting should treat others."



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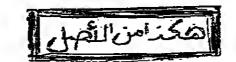
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Fewer seek college places in big cities

APPLICATIONS TO some of By BEN RUSSELL Britain's best-known universities have fallen by up to 11 per cent, confidential figures obtained hy The Independent show. Oxford and Cambridge bad increases but big city universities - Manchester, Sheffield, Leicester, Liverpool, King's College London and Newcastle - have had substantial falls.

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Student leaders said the drop could be evidence of young people having to study nearer their homes to save money. Leading academics said the changes could be a result of the increasing popularity of vocational degrees.

The largest fall was at Thames Valley University, where applications have dropped by 19 per cent compared with last year in the wake of a damning inspection

Highly respected metropolitan universities are also feeling the squeeze. Applications to King's College London are down 11 per cent, and Sheffield. Manchester, Liverpool and Newcastle all fell by between 9 and 10 per cent.

The largest rise was at De Montfort University In Leicester, where applications increased 19 per cent to 27,700.

Warwick University, which has outperformed Oxford and Cambridge in some higher education leagues, also recorded a substantial rise, with applications up 12 per cent to 26,517. Overall figures published

earlier show applications down 1.8 per cent after falls in the number of mature students and applicants from abroad. The figures do not mean

universities are in danger of under-recruiting. Under the Universities and Colleges AdEducation Correspondent

missions Service (Ucas), students can apply to up to six courses at different universities. At most large universities four students apply for each place on

Yesterday Professor Alan Smithers, director of the Centre for Education and Employment Research at Liverpool University said the changes may be due to the rise of workrelated courses such as business studies and computer programming, which increasingly top the popularity polls. He said: "If you look at the

mix of subjects there are declines in the disciplines which universities have traditionally offered: subjects such as chem-

THE WINNERS AND LOSERS

De Montfort University: Up 19 per cent

Warwick University: up 12 Southampton University: up 7.6 per cent University of the West of England: Up 7 per cent London School of Econom-

Thames Valley University: Down 19 per cent King's College London:

ics: up 4 per cent

Down 11 per cent Nottingham Trent University: Down 11 per cent. Liverpool University: Down 10.5 per cent Manchester University:

Down 10.5 per cent

istry, physics, biology, history to a certain extent, and English.

"That is the sort of subject mix you get at the old, traditional universities. The growth has been in computer science, husiness and administration and software engineering; the sort of mix you get in the new

"There has been a lot of publicity about the supposed advantages of taking vocational degrees and that has perhaps been picked up by teenagers who think these will offer them opportunities. We know from subjects like media studies that it is not always the case.

You would think that with students paying for their studies, they would pay close attention to what universities were offering."

Keith Hicks, communications manager at the University of the West of England, Bristol, where applications were up 7 per cent, said: "People are now looking much more for vocational courses and are concerned about how employable they will be. We are increasingly getting questions at open days about where this is going to lead them, what the first, second and third destinations of graduates are."

Dr Jacqueline Henshaw, head of undergraduate admissions at Manchester University, said the fall was common to many northern universities.

showing the greatest drop in applications. It looks as though people are less inclined to apply to institutions more than two hours or so away. "Parents are saying they

want little Johnny to stay near home. They do not want them on their doorstep, but they do not want them too far away." Rhubarb, which until recently



The new rhubarb emerges from an age of culinary darkness

JANET OLDROYD walks down the path through the middle of her darkened hangar, planting two candles, mounted on fourfoot candlesticks, in the soil on either side. "It's very restful, isn't it?" she asks, with the smile of one who knows she has just converted somebody to an

She said: "The South-east is In the candlelight stand row upon row of gently glowing red stalks, topped by green leaves the size of a small hand, which

seem to be whispering. Ms Oldroyd is a fourthgeneration grower of "forced" rhubarb at her family's market garden on a hillside above Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

BY DARIUS SANAI

vied with the turnip for the title of the world's least fashionable edible plant, is in the midst of a revival. And Ms Oldroyd is at the centre.

The rhubarb revival will be celebrated this weekend in Wakefield, historical bome of forced rhubarb, with the first International Rhubarb Festival, at which chefs, borticulturists and consumers will experiment with the plant.

The number of growers of forced rhubarb, which requires expensive and skilful rearing, fell from 200 some 30 years ago to just 15 last year. But the de-

The food halls of Harvey and it's definitely becoming providing an unlikely glow of Nichols, Harrods and Fortnum fashionable. As well as the clasand Mason proudly display Oldroyd's forced winter rhubarb (which, as Ms Oldroyd explains, has the same relationship to ordinary rhuharb as Dom Perignon does to Babycham), A spokesman for Harvey Nichols

Chefs and restaurateurs Marco Pierre White and Gordon Ramsay use forced rhubarb in their recipes. Marcus Wareing, a chef who has worked with Ramsay and is opening his own restaurant next month, says rhubarb will

said it is very "in" at the mo-

ment: sales have doubled in the

sic rhubarb crumble, it makes beautiful chutneys and compotes, which you can serve with fois gras terrine." As well as providing a nu-

tritious food - rhubarb is high

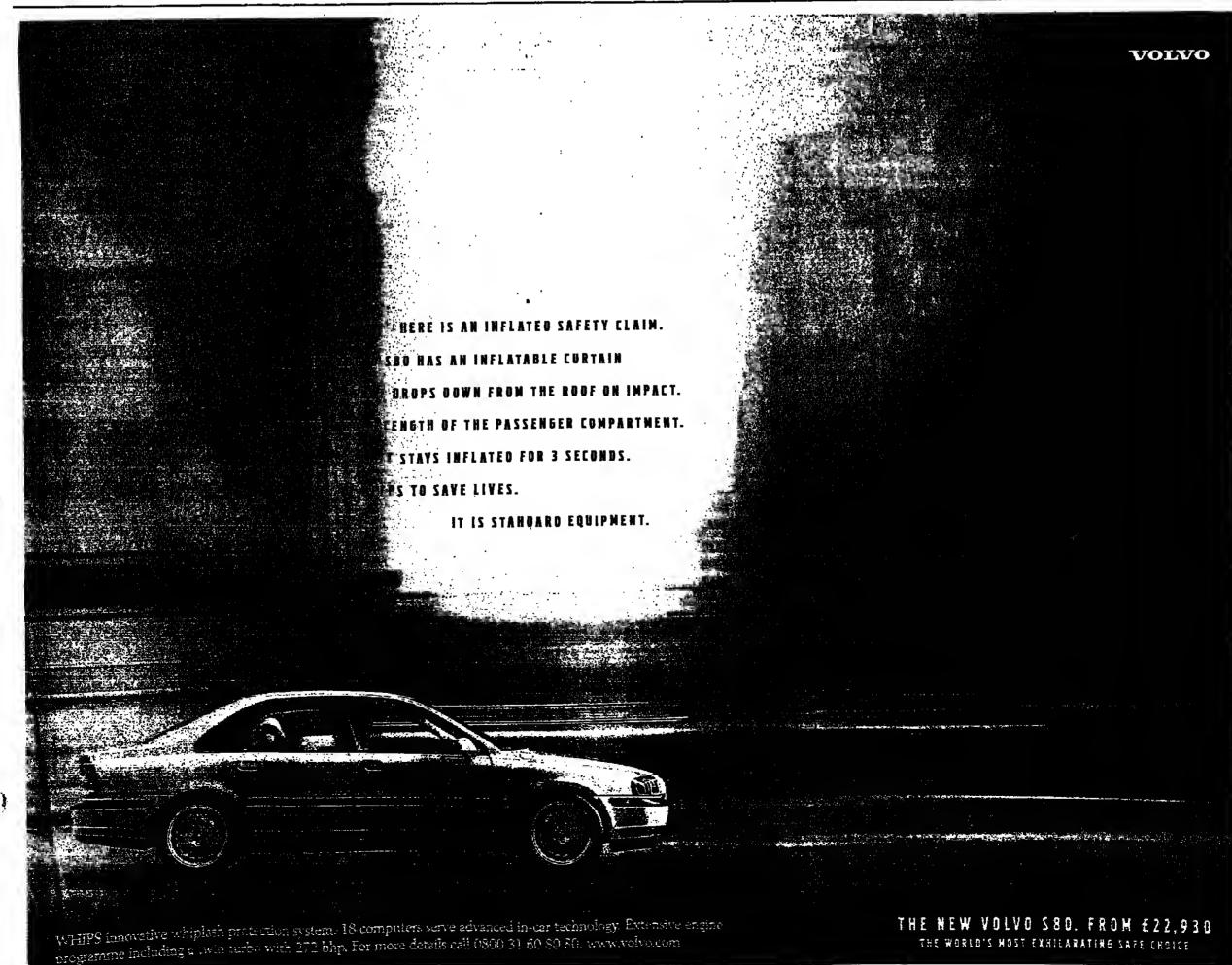
in calcium, potassium and fibre, and has only seven calories a stick - the revival is changing one of Britain's more unfortunate communities. Wakefield, once part of York-

shire's coal-mining industry, is blighted by high unemployment and the rootlessness of a new generation that has grown up to see all the region's traditional industries die. Amid the debe part of his menu. "I love it, struction the rhubarb revival is

pride, and an influx of money, for a true Yorkshire way of life. Some 6.000 tourists a year come to Wakefield to visit the growing hangars.

A new generation is now staying within a business that could have been consigned to the area's slagheaps. "I'm definitely staying in the family business," says Ms Oldroyd's 20-year-old son, Lindsay, a business studies graduate. "You can combine modern techniques and tradition very successfully.

"All my mates used to take the mickey" he adds, standing by his father's BMW, "but not



Sacked church editor not going meekly Faithful

BY STEPHEN GOODWIN Scotland Correspondent

A LEADING religious newspaper is facing a boycott amid claims of "un-Christian behaviour" over the sacking of its

Hugh Farmer, the editor of the Scottish Catholic Observer, was dismissed by Otto Herschan, chairman of the Catholic Herald group, who is a Papai Knight, an honorary title awarded by the Pope for services to the Church or society.

Mr Farmer's sacking apparently followed disputes over a liberal priest, a "too pious" nun and remarks made about a controversial priest, Father Noel Barry.

But Mr Farmer is not going meekly, and one of his most vocal supporters, Father Steve Gilhooley, an Edinburgh priest who opposes the blanket rule on celibacy for clergy, has insti-gated a boycott of the weekly newspaper Mr Farmer, meanwhile, intends to fight his dismissal and intends to call Cardinal Thomas Winning, the leader of Scotland's Catholics. if the case goes to court.

The deeply conservative Observer has a circulation of about 45,000 - almost all picked up on Sundays as congregations leave mass.

had to sack Sister Agnes, a

cousin of Cardinal Winning,

because she was too pious.

The logic was just silly," Mr

Farmer said. But he believes his

fate was sealed just before

Christmas when he publicly

rebuked Fr Barry, who sued

The trouble started last summer when Mr Farmer resisted an edict to fire two columnists - Fr Gilhooley, 35, and a nun, Sister Mary Agnes, sack Steve Gilhooley because



Father Steve Gilhooley, who had his column dropped and who is backing Hugh Farmer, the paper's sacked editor

port implying a sexual affair. Fr 62, is determined to fight the

Barry, an aide to Cardinal Win-

ning, had "acandalised the

Herschan visits the Scottish

arm of the publishing company,

When the Austrian-born Mr

church", Mr Farmer said.

Herald Group decision to sack

him and is taking legal advice.

"I will be bringing members of

the hierarchy to speak on my

behalf about my stewardship at

the Observer and one of those

done for the paper, is, let's say.

should boycott the Observer

until this is sorted out."

substantial damages over a re- reportedly a friend. Mr Farmer, dinal," he said. Fr Gilhooley in Currie dropped from 40 to said: "To behave like this toone or two after his column was wards Hugh, after all he has scrapped.

Mr Herschan was not prepared to discuss the issue, let alone the biblical parallels Contacted at the Observer's Sales of the paper at Fr Glasgow office, he declined to

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PC WORLD SALE PRICE

pray to God the Mother

FOR CENTURIES Christians

By CLARE GARNER
Religious Affairs Corre but now a new Methodist worship book has moved with the times - and decided to call God Mother.

The controversial prayer, which addresses God "our Father and our Mother", makes the Methodists the first mainstream Christian denomination in this country to depart from the traditional language used to describe God in its

liturgy.
The Methodists claim there is nothing radical in calling God Mother referring to descriptions by the 14th-century English writer, Julian of Norwich, and Old Testament passages such as Isaiah 66. which says: "as one whom his mother comforteth, so I shall com-

At yesterday's launch of the Methodists' first collection of liturgy for nearly 25 years, the Rev Neil Dixon stressed that God was neither male nor fe-

"God is not a person. God is spirit and without gender. The fact that we've used male imagery so extensively has in a sense reinforced the picture of God as a man, and the fact that Jesus is male has done that as well but, if all human beings are created in God's image, feminine as well as masculine attributes must reflect God's nature," he said.

The Rev Norman Wallwork, another member of the committee that has been working on the liturgy for the past eight years, said: "Usage always informs the church eventually. The fact that inclusive language and inclusive imagery is around in the secular world is inevitably something the churches are going to capture. While the world isn't going to write the agenda, the church

Religious Affairs Correspondent

ering something that was already in its bloodstream." The idea of introducing God as Mother into the liturgy was first floated in 1992. The idea was dropped after gaining little support. Last year the Methodist Conference, the governing body of the country's

one million Methodists, decided to reinstate the phrase. The Methodists have also introduced a clause that allows a woman to be "presented for marriage" as opposed to "given away". The man may also be "presented for marriage" by a friend or relative.

"It was thought it was time to move away from the bride being given away by ber father as if she was a medieval thing who belonged to her father's family," said Mr Wallwork. "Therefore the bride and the groom are both 'presented' in a totally equal way."

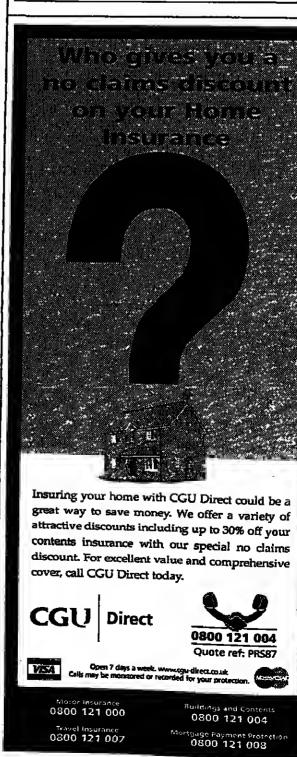
The Methodists' marriage service has been subject to further changes. The 1975 version said: "According to the teaching of Christ, marriage is the life-long union in body, mind and spirit, of one man and one woman.

In the 1999 version, the wording is: "It is the will of God that, in marriage, husband and wife should experience a lifelong unity of heart, body and mind." The word "should" may he interpreted as reflecting the lenient approach adopted by Methodists towards marrying those whose former marriages. have failed.

■ The Church of England has taken a leaf out of business textbooks in an effort to attract more "customers". Jayne Ozonne, a market researcher, will carry out focus groups in 20 dioceses to establish what the isn't going to resist rediscov- church's "customers" want.

THE METHODIST PRAYER

God our Father and our Mother. we give you thanks and praise for all that you have made, for the stars in their splendour and the world in its wonder and for the glorious gift of human life. With the saints and angels in heaven we praise your holy name.







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'Still the greatest,' they chanted. Yet Ali could hardly raise a wave

By DAVID LISTER

HI INDIANIES IN

THERE WAS a moment in Muhammad Ali's cavalcade procession through Brixton yesterday that captured in an instant the joy and poignancy of the occasion

Young and old lined Brixton Road and some ran alongside his green, open-topped 1930 Bentley. One girl waved a banner that read: "Ali Still The Greatest". Inside the car Ali had not moved; his face remained utterly impassive.

But as the cheering reached a climax he raised an arm to wave. It moved painfully slowly and only up to his waist. Then, equally slowly and painfully he brought it down. And he did not try to repeat the

Ali was meeting the leaders of Jubilee 2000 in south London. He is helping to spearhead their international campaign for world leaders to write off the debts of the poorest Third World countries. At the Brits the night before he had received a special award for his work. On neither occasion did he utter a word in public.

In Brixton, the traditional centre of London's black community, Ali remains a hero two decades after his boxing triumphs and almost as long after his physical descent into frailty caused by Parkinson's disease. His car, escorted by mounted police, drove up and down Brixton's main street to the cheers of a still adoring public.

One man in dreadlocks came out with his two sons, 13 and 14, also with dreadlocks. He said his name was Fred, a name to which he was clearly attached, as both his sons were also called Fred. In Brixton not everyone likes to give their real name. It was a joke that Ali would have laughed at once.

There lies one of the biggest



serious, the biggest contrast is not with Ali the once-nimble and super-fit, but with Ali the joker: the man who in the Sixties and Seventies performed verbal somersaults, recited impromptu poetry and smiled at his own audacity as he danced the Ali Shuffle before delivering a knock-out punch.

From the present-day Ali there is no sign of a joke, no hint of laughter. When he received his award at the Brits he did not smile

Throughout his Brixton procession he did not smile. Only when he ponderously left the car to go into the church hall for his meeting did he surprise onlookers by performing a magic trick, making a handkerchief disappear. Perhaps that's as near as one will get to the old Ali. It did not matter, not to the

crowds yesterday who had come out to see a legend, a campaigner and a role model, not a joker, not even a boxer. It was 13-year-old Fred II who said: "He is a role model for me. He is a success. He shows what you can do." Edwin, 19, added: "My dad looked up to him. He is the greatest fighter of all time. He is a role model

for the black community." John, 29, said: "I'm here to support him over dropping the jowled, impassive, silent and debt. I believe this debt is a



The old days of glory (left) and Muhammad Ali's poignant parade through the cheering streets of south London yesterday Tom Pilston

sent the lives of the seven mil-

lion children which could be

saved by 2000, if Third World

took part in a one-minute si-

lence at the monument, before

The six children and Ali

debts were cancelled.

great disadvantage to black people. You can never develop. Plus, Ali is a great man, he believes in principles and he was persecuted for them."

Perhaps he was referring to Ali's Islamic beliefs, perhaps to his imprisonment for refusing to fight in Vietnam in the Sixties. Perhaps, with many others, he has been entranced by ment in Victoria Tower Gar-

the Ali portrayed in When We Were Kings, the film of his Seventies fight in Africa with George Foreman, the rumble in the jungle. It was "Ali Boombayay", the African chant from that film, which resounded

down Brixton Road. Earlier, Ali laid a wreath at London's anti-slavery moou-

dens to show his support for the singer Jacqui Manning sang a version of Bob Marley's the campaign, At the park, near Westminster, he was met "Redemption" song. by six children, said to repre-

jumper and navy blue trousers, kissed the youngsters before joining them at the monument to lay green and yellow wreaths of roses and lilies. Ron DiNicola, Ali's lawyer and agent, said: "It's a terrific bo-

nour for him to be in England,

a country he loves and a coun-

try he has had a warm, long-

Ali, in a vivid multi-coloured standing relationship with." Vera, a middle-aged Brixton housewife, said simply: "He is a good man. And he's not looking bad at all considering the sickness he has been through. I used to sit up overnight to watch his fights.

Railway protests up 25% on year

BY PHILIP THORNTON Transport Correspondent

THE RAIL industry was wurned yesterday it must reduce customer dissatisfaction after complaints soared by 25 per cent. Chris Bolt, the Rail Regulator, said 540,000 complaints were registered by the 25 companies from April to October 1998, compared with 433,000 in the similar period in 1997.

A spokesman for the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions said: "Train companies must listen to what their passengers are telling them and take action to reduce dissatisfaction."

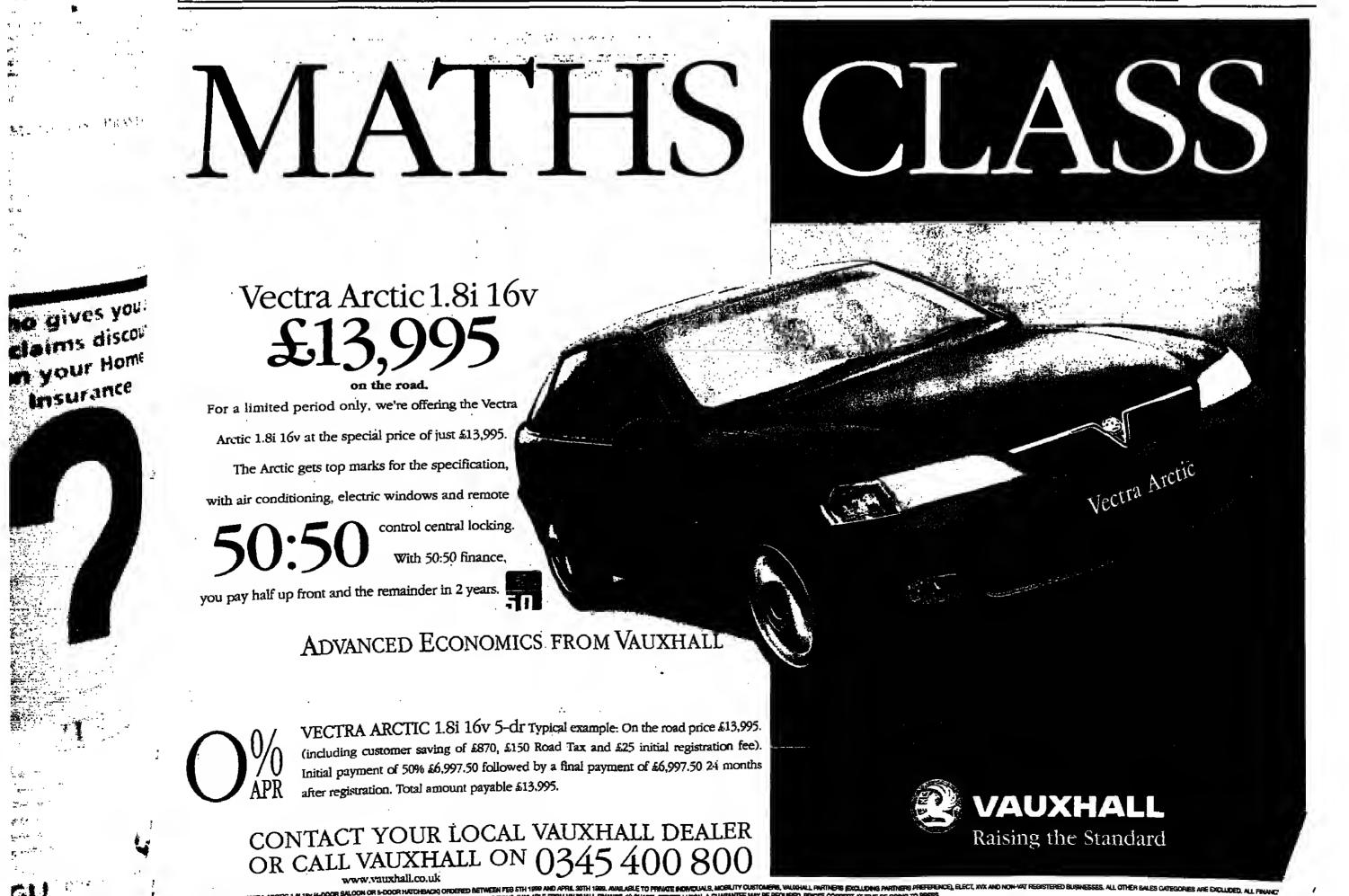
Heavy pressure is now on the industry to present a concrete plan to improve performance at next Thursday's summit called by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister.

Jon Carter, acting national director of the Central Rad Users Consultative Committee, said the rise in complaints mirrored the failure to improve performance in train services.

The Association of Train Operating Companies said the regulator had recognised the increase in gripes was partly due to an improvement in contplaint procedures. James Gordon, its director general, said: "The increasingly customerfocused train operators are very keen to have customers' comments,'

The biggest increase in written complaints per number of miles travelled, 158 per cent, was at North West Trains, LTS Rail had a 137 per cent rise. Mr Bolt said LTS Rail resolved just 49 per cent of complaints within 20 working days.

There was a little good news for Virgin. Complaints on its flagship West Coast franchise between London and Glasgow fell 3 per cent. But Virgin had the most complaints, with 104,582 letters out of a total of 356,476 and 51,538 telephooe protests out of 235,068.



Hostage-takers start hunger strike

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

THE KURDISH protesters occupying the Greek embassy in London announced they had started a hunger strike yesterday in an effort to secure their demands

Speaking by telephone a spokesman said: "We are now oo hunger strike for however long - maybe for a few days, maybe for a month."

Police later confirmed the protesters had turned down the offer of food.

It is believed that up to 90 Kurds remain in the embassy, two having left early yesterday morning. They were taken into police custody.

Despite claims from police

that negotiations were going well, there was still no sign of a breakthrough as the siege passed the 40-hour mark last

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Diplomatic sources involved in the negotiations suggested things had taken a turn for the worse and that divisions may have arisen among the hostage-takers. Some wanted to give up and others wished to start a hunger strike.

Yesterday afternoon several of the protesters were seen on the roof of the embassy, holding bottles apparently contain-

The day had begun with a flurry of pre-dawn activity, first with the arrival of the Labour peer, Lord Rea, a Kurdish sympathiser and member of the parliamentary human rights group. He met the hostagetakers. This was followed hours later by the decision of a man



Demonstrators outside the Greek embassy in London show their support for fellow Kurds who have occupied the building since Tuesday

and a woman to leave the em- thony Wills said: "We are relabassy. Both were taken into po-

At this point police and the protesters outside the embassy in Holland Park, west London, were talking of an imminent

end to the stand-off. Chief Superintendent Antively optimistic. There is no son to be anything other.

"We are hopeful of a positive solution but we are prepared for the long game. The opinion of those in charge of the operation is that the patient game is the

Chief Supt Wills said police requested a meeting with up to some Kurds as "Apo" or Uocle were also satisfied that the four unnamed MPs. They have whose seizure by the Turkish sole hostage, a Greek caretaker, Babis Pastsouris, was not in any danger.

The protesters' demands are not clear. While they have spoken of a desire to explain

to secure the safety of Abdullah Ocalan, but not giveo any details. The legend of Mr Ocalan, the leader of the Kurdish Workers'

also talked of a delegation to try authorities early on Tuesday sparked the storming of Greek embassies across Europe, has been the dominant factor at the protest. Protesters have erected a huge banner bearing his the leader of the revolution. He is a hero. That is why we are

asked not to be named. "He is

"The Turks think they can kill him. They think if they get rid of him they can get rid of 30 millioo Kurds, but they cannot. If they destroy him, we will just come together."

Another young man, who also asked not to be named said: "These protests have not been organised. It is the reaction to Mr Ocalan being captured."

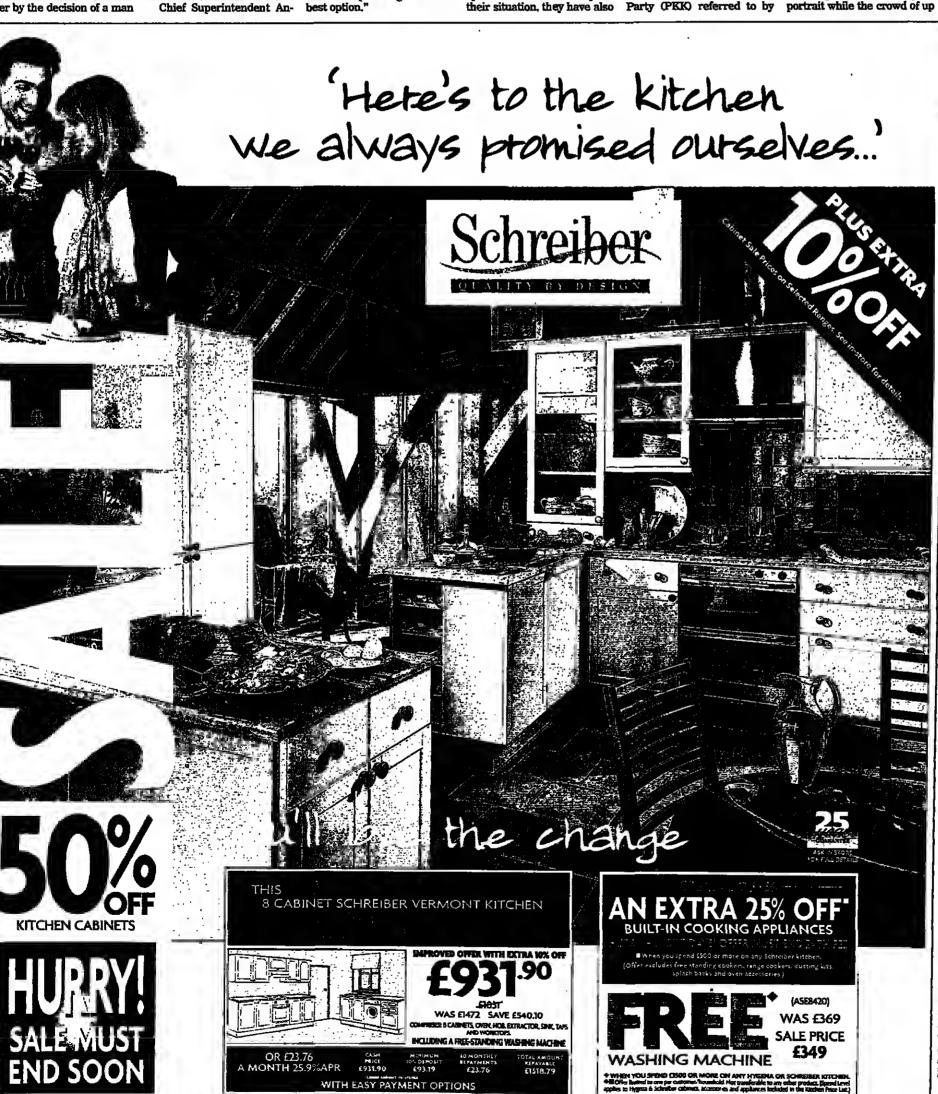
One woman, Isil Gulen, 29, said simply: "We believe that we need to be free. We have been fighting for 4,000 years. That is why we are on the streets."

Unlike on Tuesday when the atmosphere had been tense, the crowd yesterday remained in apparent good spirits as they sang and danced in a section of road close to the embassy that police had sealed off.

When news broke of the fatal shooting of three of their countrymen in Berlin, they held a minute's silence before again calling for Mr Ocalan to be

As the afternoon wore on, the veteran left-wing MP Tony Benn arrived to speak to the protesters through an interpreter.

Mr Benn said he had written to the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, demanding he immediately make clear Britain's positioo towards the Kurds. The Labour backbeocher said: "History has shown time and time again that conflict of this character can only be resolved by political talks."



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Peter Macdiarmid

to 500 - regularly swelled by

coachloads by Kurdish com-

· munities from around London

for the Kurds, he is the only

hope," said one 21-year-old

man, wrapped in a red, greeo

have been chanting his name.

"He is not the best chance

Suleyman Coskun: 'To overcome you we burn ourselves'

'Daddy, we're burning daily

THE FATHER of the Kurdish BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE teenager who set fire to herself KIM SENGUPTA in London said he understood why she did it.

Suleyman Coskun, 45, said have the power you turn it in on that as a father he was concerned and worried but understood she acted out of a feeling of helplessness about

the plight of the Kurds. Pictures of Nejla Kanteper, 15, setting fire to herself outside the Greek embassy in Holand Park, London on Tuesday were flashed around the world as a gesture of Kurdish protest against Turkish rule.

Yesterday she and her fam-ily were adjusting to the fact that she may be scarred.

She is in a specialist unit at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital west London, which issued a statement last night saying she has 15 per cent burns to her back, arms and chin.

"Her condition is stable and comfortable. She is fully conscious and is receiving medicatioo for pain control." Treatment for her injuries is to begin in the next few days, involving operations to remove burnt tissue, followed by skin grafting. She is expected to be in hospital for three to four weeks. A spokeswoman said: "Her injuries are not lifethreatening, but clearly any

burns are very serious." Ersin Coskun, 19, her brother, said she was "just fine" after he visited her. "She's all right but tired," he said, adding that he did not agree with what she had done. "Of course I don't agree, but she did it," he said, shrugging. Ersin did not see his sister set herself alight, as he had been arrested earlier in the day. He heard about it only after his release at the end of a court hearing yesterday morning. "I was shocked," he said.

Nejla, an attractive girl described as having all the interest in her looks a teenager normally has, was at the rally without the knowledge of her family. Yesterday her father, was well aware of the cruelty being inflicted on the Kurds and of their suffering. "Our power take revenge. When you do not oorth London.

AND JOHN DAVISON

mna

yourself and burn yourself. It is part of our culture." Mr Coskun said that he had oot been aware she was at the protest, held in support of up to 90 Kurds who seized the Greek

embassy and who are holding the caretaker hostage. He visited Nejla in hospital on Tuesday night. He said that when he asked why she had acted as she had, she told him: "Dad, we are burning every day." He added: "We had no idea she was in the demonstration. We knew nothing until the po-

lice contacted us at home to tell us she was in hospital." He said that his daughter had told him she had acted after police attacked Ersin, pushing her back wheo she tried to

intervene. "You Europeans are selling your arms to Turkey. You are selling our nation to Turkey. Our power is not enough to overcome you so we burn ourselves. It is our way of protesting."

But for Nejla's sister, Elif, the sacrifice and protest was regarded as a futile gesture.

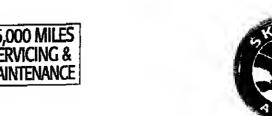
She said: "I can't understand why she did it. The Turks have killed thousands and thousands of Kurds and stolen their homeland. Why should they worry about something like this? They are happy to see the Kur-dish people suffer. This came out of the blue. She is not a particularly political person. All of the family is shocked."

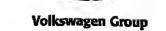
Earlier, Christine Daubney. Nejla's teacher at White Hart Lane secondary school, said she was a lively and popular pupil who was working hard for her exams.

"I am aware that she feels deeply about matters which concern her, friends and her family, but I am shocked that she should injure herself. I have spoken to someone in her who is unemployed, said ahe family home and obviously we are all very concerned about her well-being."

Both the sisters are pupils at is not enough to take it out or the White Hart Lane school, in







THE INDEPENDENT Thursday 18 February 1999 KURD PROTESTS

Triumphant Turks hold Ocalan in jail

THE KURDISH rebel leader, By JUSTIN HUGGLER Abdullah Ocalan, was in a Turkish island prison yesterday as officials refused to comment on reports that the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad, had been involved in his capture. "I can't give full details," Bulent Ecevit, the Turkish Prime Minister, said. "I myself don't know all the details.

THE INDITINGING

Turkish officials are bursting with pride at the success of the military in snatching the country's most wanted fugitive from Greek diplomats in Nairobi. Yesterday they pointed an accusing finger at Greece for giving it "incorrect and misleading" information on Mr Ocalan's whereabouts, when he was actually being sheltered

in the Greek embassy in Kenya. The Kurds are a constant irritant in Turkey's fraught relations with Greece, which has long supported their struggle against Turkish rule.

The Turkish military yesterday pressed home its advantage against the demoralised Kurds, sending tanks and troops into the enclave of northern Iraq controlled by Mr Ocalan's Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

In Ankara Mr Ecevit confirmed the Kurdish leader was being held on an island in the rorism," he said. "Now these Sea of Marmara, and that a prison there was being evacu-

ated to make way for him. Turkish television yesterday broadcast video footage of Mr French and Spanish govern-Ocalan on the flight that took him from Kenya to Turkey. A visibly distressed Mr Ocalan was shown secured to his seat and talking to three of his captors, their faces masked with balaclavas. There was no obvi-

ous sign of his being ill treated. "Abdullah Ocalan, welcome home," said a member of the special forces. "You are our

guest from now on." "Thank you," said Mr in Istanbul

Ocaian. "I really love Turkey and the Turkish people."

Reports of the capture in Turkish newspapers said it was carried out by Turkish special forces. But the vital questions, of whether Mossad was involved and of whether Mr Ocalan was kidnapped or handed over to Turkey by Greek or Kenyan officials, both remained

According to Turkish re-ports, Turkish intelligence learnt that Mr Ocalan was in Kenya on 4 February, two days after he is believed to have arrived there. Special forces travelled to Nairobi on a private jet Mr Ecevit said yesterday that the team involved numbered no more than five, excluding the jet's crew and a medic.

The reports say Mr Ocalan left the Greek embassy by car early on Tuesday morning. The special forces followed the car and apprehended the Kurdish leader. He was immediately flown to Turkey.

As protests continued across Europe, the Turkish Prime Minister was defiant. "Many European countries ignored the fact that Turkey suffered from tersame countries are suffering the same ill effects."

He reacted angrily to calls for a fair trial from the Italian, ments. "No European country has the right to lecture us on the subject," he said. "Despite prosecutors' warrants for Ocalan

they were too afraid to try him." Turkey refused Mr Ocalan's Dutch lawyers entry to the country, saying be would be represented by Turkish lawyers.

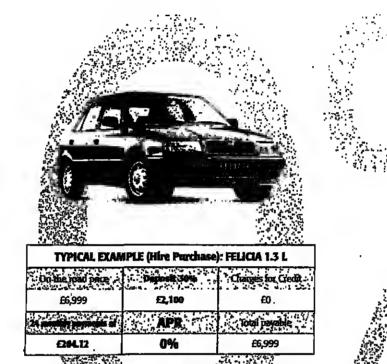
"Nobody can deny Turkey has an independent and functioning legal system," Mr Ecevit said. Last year a Turkish judge resigned, saying that the judiciary was not independent. Mr Ecevit said yesterday he was opposed to the death penalty.

The storm of publicity Mr Ocalan's capture has provoked may yet prove unwelcome to Turkey. Security forces as well as the PKK are accused of grave human rights abuses. Despite repeated ceasefire claims from the PKK, most recently last September, Turkey has steadfastly refused to talk with the rebels. The publicity could also focus on the plight of Turkey's Kurdish population, caught between security forces and the PKK.

Turkey's emergence as a



major power, Review page 4 Turkish security officers flank the Kurdish leader Abdullah Ocalan, strapped to his seat, on his flight from Kenya to Istanbul



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People who seek their own nation

Who are the Kurds? The lands of the Kurds straddle Turkey, Iran and Iraq, an by Marxist Leninist comarea of about 200,000 square miles. More than half of the 25 million population live in Iran and 4.2 million in north-

What is their claim to a

state? They are the only big nation denied its own state after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in the First World War.

So what are there chances of getting one? Very slim. The one thing Iran,



Jalal Talabani, leader of an Iraqi Kurdish party

that the Kurds must never win independence. Their best chance seemed to be in Iraq after the Gulf War, when the Western allies set up a "safe haven" in the north. But internal splits wrecked this and enabled Saddam Hussein to regain control.

So who are the PKK? These are the militants among the Turkish-based Kurds, as opposed to the two Iraqi-based Kurdish parties, led by Jalal Talabani and Massoud Brazan.

What do they stand for? PKK is short for Kurdish Workers' Party. They are led

manders, but are basically nationalists who feel excluded by the Turkish state. They want Turkey Over 6 million live in independence in the south east corner of Turkey.

> When did they start fighting in Turkey? In the mid-Eighties. In the early 1990s they took control of a lot of territory. More recently the Turks have rolled in more troops and bolstered their position. As a result, the PKK has become more

behaved towards the

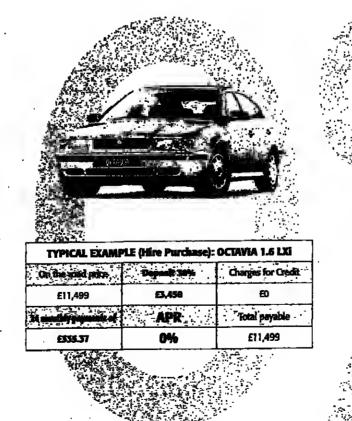
Abominably, according to Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch. The Turkish military rules the Kurdish areas with an iron fist, razing entire villages and deporting people en masse.

Where has Mr Ocaian been all this time? Mostly directing affairs from abroad. After founding the PKK in 1978 he fled Turkey in 1980 and lived mainly in Syria. After being kicked out last year he went to Italy, but it wouldn't grant him asylum.

trial? Turkey will be under enormous international pressure to allow one. But he faces s long list of charges for practising terrorism, which carry the death penalty.

So is PLO-style terrorism about to engulf Europe? tion, the PKK may resort to desperate measures. There are tens of thousands of disaffected Kurds in Europe who may now turn to the PKK.

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Jones case is far from over

JUST WHEN it might have BY ANDREW MARSHALL seemed that the President's political travails were over he may now he facing a further

Bill Clinton could be heading for trouble over his misleading testimony to the sexual haformer Arkansas state employee Paula Jones, which sparked the long and painful impeachment process.

Mr Clintoo has admitted that his testimony was misleading, and the judge in the Jones case said late on Tuesday that she might bring proceedings against him for cootempt of court.

"I believe that now is the time for the court to address the ing law again. contempt issue," said Judge Susan Webber Wright in Little Rock, Arkansas.

With the exception of the President, I have not been able to single out individuals who might be in contempt."

The Jones case was dismissed by the judge, but appealed by Ms Jones. She then settled out of court with Mr

Clintoo for \$850,600. But the case had, by then, placed him in deep trouble.

Among the witnesses listed in the case was a certain Monrassment case brought by the ica Lewinsky, and it was this which led inexorably to Mr Clinton's impeachment last

> But a sitting President probably cannot be arrested, or forced to go to court - that is why impeachment exists – so it is unclear what will happen to Mr Clinton even if the case is

One possibility is that he will be disbarred from practis-

The contempt case is just one of a series of possible legal actions that could flare up in the President's remaining two years in office.

Impeachment may be over, but a welter of possible other cases could keep lawyers busy well into the next millennium. What the future bolds for

Hillary, Review front John King arriving at Jasper county courthouse yesterday

DNA 'links suspect' to race murder

A FEW drops of blood were BY ANDREW MARSHALL piece of a racially charged mur-

der trial in Texas yesterday. James Byrd Jr, 49, was dragged to death behind a pickup truck in a brutal killing that shocked America. Blood was found on the shoes of John King, 24, one of three suspects oo trial in Jasper, a small town of 8,000 people. DNA evidence to be presented yesterday at the county courthouse showed that it was Mr Byrd's blood, the prosecution was to argue. Saliva on cigarette butts and beer bottles also showed that Mr King was present at the scene of the crime, it was claimed.

Mr Byrd and the other sus-

pects - Lawrence Brewer, 31. and Shawn Berry, 32 - had planned the killing in advance to spearhead the creation of a racist group, the prosecution claimed as it opened the trial on Tuesday. They cited conversations the suspects had in prison, tattoos on the suspects and items found near the body.

Sheriff Billy Rowles told the court: "I'm a brand-new sheriff. I didn't even know the definition of a hate crime, but I knew somebody had been murdered because he had been black. Once we saw the KKK [Ku-Klux-Klan]emblem on the cigarette lighter, that's when we started having some bad

Mr King is being tried first, by a jury that includes one hlack man, and could face execution by lethal injection if convicted. He pleaded not guilty. His lawyer, Haden "Sonny"
Cribbs, did not make an opening statement.

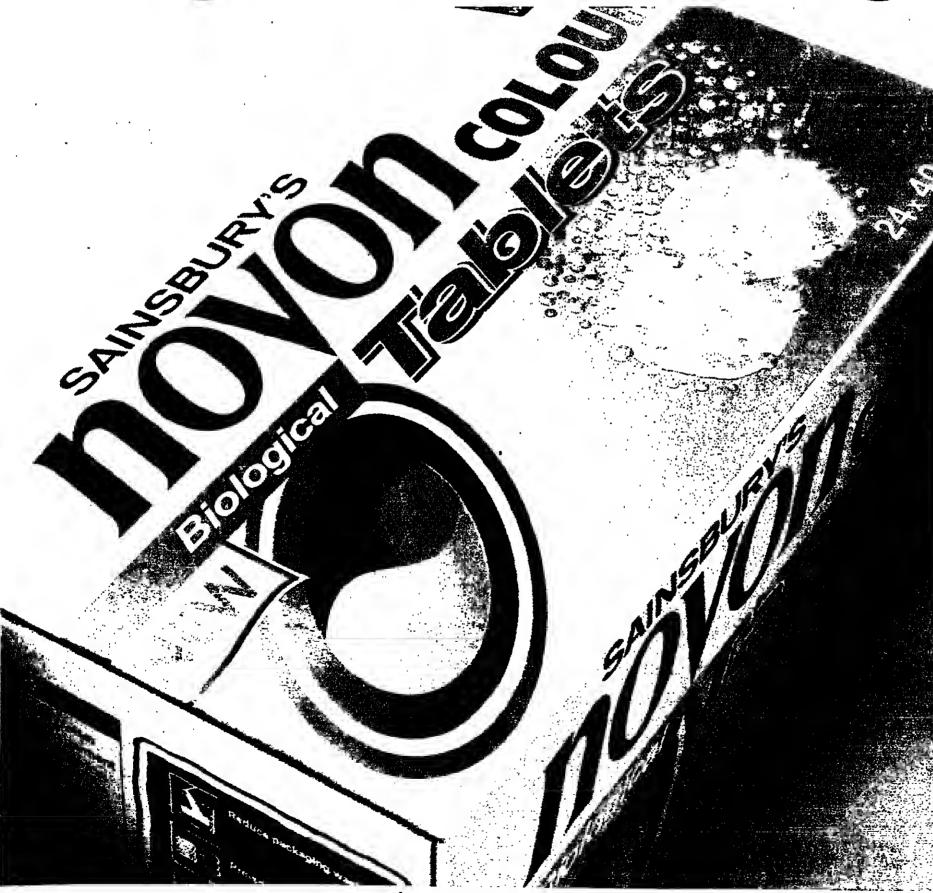
court that Mr King had been Rebel Soldiers," an offshoot of the Confederate Knights of America, a group linked to the sations that have deep roots in the east Texas area.

his apartment showed he planned to start the group oo July 4: the killing was on July 7. Mr King "needed to do something dramatic that would attract media attention", said the prosecutor, James Gray.

If that was his intention then be has succeeded. The trial has brought reporters from across America. And the Ku-Klux-Klan has used the incident to hold rallies in Jasper. That has prompted counter-demonstrations by hlack groups such as the New Black Panthers. Judge Joe Bob Golden has banned protests within two blocks of the courtroom, but there are still fears that the trial will turn into something even worse than it is already: the excuse for a fight.

Race-related killings are horrifyingly common in the US. hut the Jasper case has hit the headlines more than most. It is partly the sheer violeoce of the killing. Mr Byrd was alive and conscious when he was dragged to his death. An examination of his body showed The prosecution told the he had tried to keep his head off the road. But his bead and trying to recruit for a new arm were torn off. The other group be called the "Texas factor is the suspicion that this was part of a broader plot, linked to the far-right organi-

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Honduras maps its new country

IN TERMS of world attention. By PHIL DAVISON last year's Hurricane Mitch put Honduras on the map. But the floods and landslides nearly wiped the little Central Amer-

ican nation off it. So great was the damage cartographers are redrawing the map of the country. Mitch widened rivers, wiped away entire villages, killed more than 5,000 people and forced hun-rains did the worst damage.

dreds of thousands to relocate. tlements," said Noe Pineda Portilo, head of the country's National Geographical Institute, which is about to start the

Light aircraft, which have just completed distributing aid Latin America Correspondent

flown again to take photographs that will be used as a basis for the new national map.

They will concentrate on banana-producing areas in the oorth and south and ogar the Nicaraguan border, where five days of torrential post-Mitch

In the northern area around "The hurricane changed the Trujillo tidal waves wiped out course of rivers and disrupted entire towns, extending the the geographical situation of coast inland by up to a mile in numerous highways, railways some places. The main road and the location of human set- through the coastal town of Santa Rosa de Aguan now looks like a river after the Caribbean ocean spilt inland.

In the capital, Tegucigalpa the Choluteca river burst its banks and, more than three months later, is still several times wider than it was before.



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IIII INTHUMENTA

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But Jeffrey Benzien, a police torturer who demonstrated his gruesome "wet-bag" method of extracting confessions at a televised TRC hearing in 1997, was yesterday granted amnesty. Mr Benzien, still a serving

policeman, was granted amnesty by the TRC for the killing in 1987 of Ashley Kriel. a Cape Town activist in the African National Congress.

The TRC, which is empow ered to pardon politically motivated human-rights crimes under apartheid, said the policemen involved in Biko's death did not tell the truth about the killing when they appeared before the amnesty committee.

The commussion said it found no political motive behind the murder of the black consciousness leader, who suffered brain damage during interrogation, Biko died six days after being beaten, then driven naked and bleeding 600 miles from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria in the back of a police van. "None of the applicants impressed us as a credible witness. They have clearly conspired to conceal the truth," the

The commission's decision theoretically clears the way for Biko's family to take legal action against the officers, Daniel Siebert, Rubin Marx and Jacobus Beneke. The fourth officer, Harold Snyman, has died. Their commander, Gldcon Nieuwoudt, is in jail for other

Mr Benzien, whose crimes

Mugabe's attack on judges and journalists fails to stifle dissent

By ALEX DUVAL SMITH in Harare

TEN YEARS ago, one politician said Zimbabwean democracy was in the intensive care unit." said Isaac Maposa, a lawyer campaigning for constitutional reform. "Now it is in the mortuary. It may even be lying in

Yet after the worst month for freedom in the southern African country since independence from Britain in 1980. there is optimism in the capital, Harare. Despite unprecedented attacks on the media and the judiciary, a new generation, including Mr Maposa, who is in his thirties, is emerging to challenge President Robert Mugabe.

Kevin Laue, who chairs Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, said: "It would be wrong to be naively optimistic. A lot of people are at the end of their "I have no doubt there will be

violence and strikes. But the press is more vibrant and the opposition is speaking out." It has cause to. Six months f support for President Lauent Kabila's war in the Denocratic Republic of Congo have cost the country millions d dollars. Inflation continues to star and excessive rains are a pertent of more price rises; meat and bread are expected to increase by up to 30 per cent next week. Hardly a day goes by without a student demonstraion in Harare, Bulawayo or Muare. Their grants have not been paid.

Harare city council is said to be schroke it cannot print parking tickets for its traffic wardens. But the council is building a maision for its mayor.

Ampesty International says humai rights in Zimbabwe are in a state of "crisis". Next Monday, two journalists from the Sunday Standard newspaper will be remanded on charges of publishing a false report. Their article claimed officers had against intervention in Congo. The editor, Mark Chavun

Choto, were arrested not by pobee but by soldiers, and allegedly tortured. When supreme court judges protested that the journalists were being held illegally in military custody, President Mugabe staged a televised address. He accused the judges, whose col-



A press photographer fends off a blow from riot police in Harare breaking up a protest march by lawyers and human rights activists in January

ective petition was the first seven journalists have been since 1965, of over-reacting and arrested for stories which, said they should resign.

In the same address, Mr Mugabe, 75, cited "insidious utengwende, caused "alarm attempts by British agents planted or recruited in Zimbabwe to bring disaffection amongst us". The President plotted a coup to protest named three Zimbabwean buman rights campaigners. Une. Mike Altret of the Catholic duka, and a reporter, Ray Commission for Justice and Peace, fought the pre-1980 Ian

Smith regime. On 1 March, a reporter from the weekly Mirror will appear in court over a story four months ago claiming the grieving family of a soldier killed in Congo received only his bead for burial. In under a month,

according to Zimbabwe's information minister. Chen Chimand despondency". Last week, the minister said foreign investment in the media would be curbed because "they are doing it for political reasons".

Such zerophobic remarks still strike a chord with some o the country's 12 million people, especially in rural areas. among the poor, and within President Mugabe's own generabon. The redistribution of 12.3 million acres of farm land - another favourite subject in Mugabean demagogy - has been slow and inefficient. Twenty years after independence, a

few thousand whites still farm the best 30 per cent of Zimbabwe's land.

In a court ruling last week that may have fuelled Mr Mugabe's ire, the government was instructed that 520 farms it had earmarked for redistribution would remain in white hands because the authorities' paperwork had been filed late.

With parliamentary and presidential elections due next year and in 2002, President Mugabe shows no signs of wishing to bring to a close his 19-year tenure of power.

This week, the government approved Zim\$450 million (£7.5m) for "community development projects" - dams, roads, bridges, boreholes and

classrooms for the rural areas from Zanu-PF in disgust at its from which President Mngabe draws much of his support.

If it was not for three out of parliament's 150 seats, Zimbabwe would be a one-party state. It is, really. Mr Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) holds 147 seats.

Since independence and Zimbabwe's unhappy experi-ence of structural adjustment, observers have been united in their chorus: it is a promising country with relatively high levels of literacy and strong poblical awareness, but there is no opposition.

That, finally, seems to be changing. The veteran irritant, Margaret Dongo, who delected groupings, the other being Zim-

cronyism, last month launched her new party, the Zimbabwe Union of Democrats.

Mrs Dongo, 39, said: "ZUD will take Zimbabwe back to the people for accountability, transparency and good governance. It is not a party for whites or any other group. It is a party for the citizens of the COUNTRY.

Mr Maposa is the coordinator of the National Constitutional Assembly, an umbrella body of 60 nongovernmental organisations and civil liberties groups, based in a villa in the leafy suburbs of

It is one of two new political

babwe Integrated Project (Zip), just launched by a mathematician, Henery Dzinotylweyi.

Rob Cooper/AP

Mr Maposa said: "Our mission is to make people participate meaningfully and as informed stakeholders in a debate which must lead to the updating of our constitution."

He denies the NCA - which he says gets funds from the E U and includes the influential Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions - is a nascent political grouping. There is unity in numbers

and we are growing," be said. "We have a neutral position but of course, by the nature of what we do, there is no escaping that we are dealing in politics."

Letters, Review page 2

human rights crimes. Biko's son, Nkosinathi, vesterday welcomed the decision

but did not indicate whether the family would press charges. Under TRC rules, evidence from amnesty bearings cannot be used in a criminal trial. the TRC ruled had been politically motivated, drew world-

wide attention at his amnesty bearing when be demonstrated his "wet-bag" technique with a former victim, ANC MP Tony Yengeni - a dampened cloth placed over the subject's face and gradually tightened from behind.

Circumciser of girls jailed

A COURT convicted a Malian of the genital mutilation of 48 girls and sentenced her to eight years in prison, the harshest sentence imposed in France for ritual circumcision.

The mother of one of the girls was also sentenced to two years, to the distress of her daughter, who made the trial possible. Mariatou Koita, 22, a student, was the first woman to come forward in France and make a formal complaint about

BY JOHN LICHFIELD

ber circumcision as a child. Although she has been disowned by ber parents, she said after the verdict she was saddened that her mother had been singled out for a tougher sen-

tence than other parents. Twenty-one other mothers and three fathers were convicted of being accessories to mutilation but their sentences

were suspended after the recommendations of the public

The jury rejected his advice in the case of Dienaba Koita, Mariatou's mother who made violent verbal attacks on ber daughter at the trial. The professional circumcis-

er, Hawa Greou, was given eight years, five of which she served in custody before the case came to court. Female circumcision - amputation of the

Mali, Gabon and other African countries hut is illegal in

The prosecutor, recommending jail for Greou and suspended sentences for the others, said the state was not seeking vengeance. It wanted a clear condemnation of the "process of circumcision" and exemplary sentences, which would help to stamp it out in immigrant communities.

Net affair led to stabbing A FRENCH court is trying what

first cyber-murder. Regis Vinllet and Amandine Estrade, both aged 23, began their love affair on the Internet, like the virtual lovers in the recent Hollywood movie, You

Have Mail. They even had virtual sex on the Web, he in Lyons and she hundreds of miles away in Bordeaux. All went well until the two of them met and they startBY JOHN LICHFIELD

might have become the world's ed to have a real love affair. Amandine moved to Lyons to be close to her lover hut they rapidly fell out. In a jealous rage, Mr Viollet

followed Amandine and a new boyfriend to ber home. He barged his way in and there was nothing "virtual" about the knife that be plunged into ber belly.

Amandine survived, howev-

er, after emergency surgery in

which she lost a kidney. Mr Viollet, a computer programmer is on trial in Lyons for attempted murder. ■ Most people in France do not believe that the trial of three former ministers in a scandal over Aids-tainted blood will be fair, or will establish who is

vesterday. But an overwhelming 85 per-cent said they thought that

responsible, a new poll said

an unprecedented event in post-war France, was a good

The three ministers, including a former French prime minister Laurent Fabius, are accused of manslaughter over the management of blood banks blamed for infecting thousands of people with the Aids virus during 1984-85. Many of the victims were

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Serbian veto delays a deal

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

KOSOVO PEACE negotiations moved to a cliff-hanging finale last night as President Slobodan Milosevic refused to permit Nato troops on Yugoslav soil a veto that in theory could unleash Western air strikes as early as this weekend.

The Yugoslav leader made his stand on Tuesday when he met Christopher Hill, the US diplomat who has been leading efforts to broker a settlement between Belgrade and the ethnic Kosovo Albanians at the talks at Rambouillet near Paris.

But diplomats from the leading powers, who have set a deadline of noon on Saturday for agreement, remained hopeful a deal could be reached. They believed Mr Milosevic would hold out to the last mo-

ment before signing. But his sudden stand was an unwelcome setback to the possible trade-off that had been shaping up. The Albanians, however reluctantly, would drop their demands for a specific promise in the three-year interim agreement of a subsequent referendum, assuring

them of ultimate independence. In return, Yugoslavia would accept Nato peace-keepers. The Russian foreign minister, Igor Ivanov, was in Rambouillet earlier this week, trying to sweeten the pill by promising that Russia, Serbia's main sympathiser in the six-nation Contact Group of major powers,

would contribute to the force. Plans are all but ready for up to 30,000 Nato troops to move into the Serbian province to underpin a deal guaranteeing Kosovo broad autonomy, with its own elected parliament and police force. Once the latter was installed, Yugoslavia would keep only 1,500 troops in the province, to guard its external borders. The Kosovo Liberation Army, which has conducted an 18-month guerrilla war, would be disbanded.



Romanian police and a protester in Stoenesti yesterday, when miners tried to reach the capital

Miners' leader held after bloody clashes

THE MAN who nearly brought Romania to its knees last month was arrested vesterday after clashes between riot police and coal miners that left one miner dead, dozens injured and 350 arrested.

The arrest of the miners' leader, Miron Cozma, came as he and 2,000 comrades headed to the capital, Bucharest, to protest against an 18-year sentence imposed on him this week for his role in a violent 1991 miners' protest. The Justice Minister, Valeriu Stoica, said: "It is an act of justice. I am glad police managed to apply the [court's] sentence."

BY ADAM LEBOR Central Europe Correspondent

Thousands of striking miners marched on Bucharest last month in protest against the closure of mines and falling standards of living. The miners' march was stopped only after President Emil Constantines cu sent in tanks and troops to halt their advance.

Cozma unsuccessfully resisted officers who arrested him yesterday after the car he was in stopped for petrol near Caracal, 30 miles from Bucharest, the mayor of Caracal, Cheorghe Anghel, was

quoted as saying by Rompres

The miners began their latest protest after Cozma was sentenced in absentia on Monday for leading the 1991 march. He said the sentence, increased from 18 months, was political-

In clashes that lasted three hours in the village of Stoenesti, 90 miles from Bucharest, 2,000 riot police beat miners with clubs, fired rubber hullets and threw tear-gas grenades, leaving dozens injured. Miners attacked officers with chains, axes and sticks, the Interior Ministry said.

Police arrested 350 miners who were trying to reach the capital in 40 buses, national radio reported. Other miners fled and police troops were combing the area.

The Interior Minister said be did not expect any more outbreaks of violence from miners. Police would use real bullets in future protests, said Anghel Andreescu, the head of one police department.

Mr Constantinescu thanked police and troops for preventing the miners from reaching Bucharest and for "defending a state where the law is re-

Spanish eyes smile on colonial friends

FRONTLINE

GIBRALTAR

colonial status a ridiculous

anachronism, and described it

as an "economic parasite". But Jose, and thousands like

for us. There is no bigger em-ployer for miles around. No one

in La Linea wants Gibraltar to

become Spanish," he insists.

La Linea residents who nois-

ily protested against Madrid at the weekend for tightening

screws on Gibraltar. The work-

ers are angry that their jobs

Gibraltar provides jobs

for about 2,000 Spaniards

on the Rock are threatened,

fearing greater hardship in

this impoverished area where

unemployment is 40 per cent.

mayor, Jose Antonio Fernan-

dez Pons, last week urged

Madrid to aid his "totally stag-

nant" town. "La Linea and

Gibraltar are linked by blood

and geography," says Mr Pons.

"We need mutual under-

standing on a day-to-day basis.

The prosperity of the area de-

pends on it. We've always been

ignored by the central gov-

ernment in its policy towards

Gibraltar, Now we want com-

pensation from Madrid for the

La Linea was born becaus

hardship we're suffering."

La Linea's conservative

the highest rate in Spain.

Jose was among some 2,000

him, strongly disagrees. Gibraltar is like a factory

THE FRONTIER between Spain and Gibraltar does not bristle with jumpy, rifle-toting guards. Few approach those drab little border controls with apprehension in their hearts. On the Spanish side rough-looking men and women hang around - as you would expect at any frontier post worth its salt - guiping hot coffee and fat gobiets of brandy against the morning chill at Paco's stand-up bar. But most are doing nothing more sinister than waiting for the bus to Algeciras

On the Gibraltar side, a rosy-cheeked bobby with a West Country burr directs you politely to the interminable queue of cars waiting to

get out. Many in the queue are Spaniards on their regular cheap-petrol run, or Gibraltarians eager to check on their properties along the costo. Pedestrians rarely wait much except at rush hour, when some 2,000 Spaniards employed on the Rock queue to get home for dinner.

The tension, when it flares, comes from Madrid and London. Here on the border, Gibraltarians and Spaniards get on fine. For centuries they have been trading, smuggling, marrying each other and jumbling up their languages. Mostly, they like each other.

Jose Gomez, from the scruffy Spanish border town of La Linea, has been crossing every day for 15 years to work in a hotel bar on the Rock

Francis, who runs a pharmacy in Gibraltar's Main Street, is married to Kathy, an elegant Spanish woman from La Linea, They cross to Spain several times a week so the children can see their grandparents. On this occasion he is braving the queue to deal with some paperwork for a flat he has bought "across the road". The Spanish government

recently called Gibraltar's of the British colony. For centuries the people of the town trudged across the causeway to service the imperial garrison on the Rock. When Franco closed the border in 1967 he choked off the city's lifeline. "He built a factory along the bay that closed within weeks," Jose recalls bitterly, "and a football pitch in full view of the

Rock, to make Gibraltarians

think we were prospering." Francis, his week-old BMW gleaming in the queue, remembers how his father struggled to keep the pharmacy going during the 18-year blockade that followed. He believes Gibraitar could survive as a banking and business centre if Spain opened up and Britain "were generous with opportunities".

But few are so confident. Gibraltar's anxiety is that London will cast it aside now that its historic usefulness is gone and good relations with Spain become the more pressing need. Fearing that Britain's commitment will wane, the Gibraltarians plead for reassurance that they won't be abandoned, sensitive to any equivocal silence.

Anachronistic they may be, but Gibraltarians say it is not their fault that Britain's 300year colonial rule made them what they are: neither Spanish nor British, but Mediterranean Latins steeped in generations of British customs, education and habits of government. At home in neither country, they cling to the

identity they have.

Across the road, back at the bar that faces British sovereign territory, Paco breaks me off a sprig from a bunch of olive leaves in a tumbler on the counter. Is this a peace offering? I joke, in Spanish He's mon-committel and replies, in English: "One more coffee? Before the bus corres." ELIZABETH NASH



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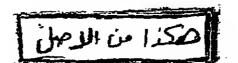
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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Coats sells Dyncast for £322m

COATS VIYELLA, the textiles group, has sold Dyncast, its precision engineering division, to a management huyout backed by Cinven free of debt for £322m cash. Dyncast, based in Alcester, makes components in metal and plastics for the car, telecoms and computer industries. It has 37 factories in 19 countries, and employs 6,000 people.

Dyncast made operating profits of £30m and accounted for 23 per cent of group profits in 1997, hut was earmarked for sale in December. The proceeds will be used to reduce group debt, Coats chairman Sir David Alliance said.

Second strike at Wembley



WEMBLEY, the leisure group that owns the famous London football stadium, said yesterday it had received an approach from a second potential bidder. The company is rumoured to be SFX Entertainment. a US venue and entertainment group thought to have been in talks with Wembley's

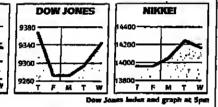
bankers. Wembley has already received an approach from Enic, the group that owns stakes in several European football clubs. Any deal could jeopardise Wembley's plans to sell the stadium in

a £103m redevelopment deal. Elsewhere in football, Leicester City said a board member had received an informal approach about a possible bid. Millwall Holdings has raised £300,000 via a share placing.

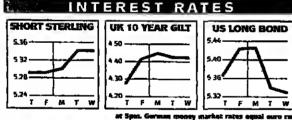
Tietmeyer proposes stability group

HANS TIETMEYER, Bundesbank president, is expected to propose at Saturday's G7 meeting that a new "financial stability forum" should oversee world financial markets. He is said to favour creating a committee of officials from G7 finance ministries and central banks. The committee expected to be headed by Andrew Crockett, Bank for International Settlements head - would meet twice a year

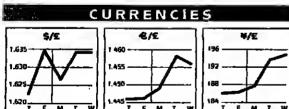
STOCK MARKETS



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FTSE 100	6078.40	-30.20	-0.49	6195.60	4599.20	2.63
FTSE 250	5174.50	-26.40	-0.51	5970.90	4247,60	3.23
FTSE 350	2878.50	-14.40	-0.50	2969.10	2210.40	2.72
FTSE All Share	2782.30	-13.09	-0,47	2886.52	2143.53	2,76
FTSE SmallCap	2250.50	2.40	0,11	2793.B0	1834.40	3.60
FTSE Fledgling	1228,70	-0.20	-0.02	1517,10	1046.20	4,41
FTSE AIM	822,60	-2.90	-0.35	1146.90	761.30	1.16
FTSE Eurotop 100	2747.64	-28.08	-1.01	3079.27	2018.75	2,15
FTSE Eurotop 300	1197.51	-11.90	-0.98	1332.07	B80.63	2.00
Dow Jones	9342.89	46,12	0.50	9647,96	7400.30	1,64
Nikkel	14158.67	•73,97	-0.52	17352,35	12787,90	1.03
Hang Seng	9402.39	-23.0	-0.24	11926.16	6544.79	3,73
Dax	4810.09	-94.59	•1,93	6217.83	3833.71	1.78
56P 500	1246.31	4.57	0.37	1283,64	923.32	1,27
Nasdag	2300.59	-13.28	-0.57	2533.44	1357.09	0.30
Toronto 300	6394.80	8.32	0.13	7837.70	5320.90	1.66
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Belgium Bel20	3375.08	-28.29	-0.83	3713.21	2661.65	2.10
Amsterdam Exch	514.15	-8.69	1.66	600.65	366.58	1,91
France CAC 40	3985.49	-66.83	-1.65	4404.94	2881.21	2.03
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US	5.00	-0.63	5.25	-0.41	4.99	0.45	5.33	0.47	
Japan	0.32	-0.53	0.33	-0.49	2.04	0.08	3.24	0.67	
Germany	3.09	-0.42	3.03	-0.72	3.90	-1.03	4.84	-0.64	



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Yen	194.79	+¥2.04	206.81	Yen	119.00	+40.94	126.57
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Source, Thomas Cook

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Jobless total at 19-year low despite slowdown

BY DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

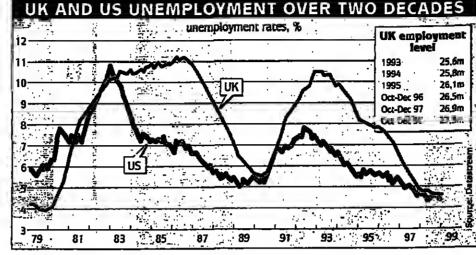
A DROP in unemployment to its lowest level in nearly 19 years, despite the economic slowdown, was welcomed yesterday by industry and unions. But they warned there would be bad news on jobs in coming months

The number of people claiming unemployment benefit fell by 5,700 in January to 1,305,300. Unemployment also fell by 15.000 in the three months to December on the hroader survey measure to reach 1,790,000.

The Confederation of British Industry said unemployment was unlikely to continue falling and urged the Bank of England to cut inter-

Minutes of the last meeting of the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee, which were published yesterday, showed that eight members voted for the unexpected half-point cut in rates this month. One - Willem Buiter - favoured a bigger reduction.

The minutes emphasised the danger posed by global slowdown, and showed that the MPC had significantly re-



vised its forecast of wage in-

The committee made pointed reference to the inaction of the European Central Bank, which is also causing concern at the Treasury. The minutes said: "The prospects for the global economy would be better if there were a more positive outlook for demand growth in the euro area."

Analysts said the minutes showed a hias in favour of further interest-rate cuts, "With structural improvements in

the jobs market and no inflationary pressure, we think rates could fall to 3.5 per cent gan Grenfell. next year," said Leo Doyle, an economist at Dresdner Klein-

wort Benson. Yesterday's data showed a rise of 122,000 in employment in October-December, taking the total to a new peak of 27,286,000. The unemployment rate remained at 4.6 per cent, near the US's 4.3 per cent.

"It is great news that unemployment is still falling. We are getting a taste of the US."

said Steven Bell, chief UK economist at Deutsche Mor-

Unemployment measured by the Labour Force Survey showed increases in the Northeast, Scotland, Wales, the West Midlands and North-west in the latest quarter. The biggest jobless falls were in London and Northern Ireland. London and the South-east had the higgest jobs gains.

The regional pattern was explained by the continuing loss of manufacturing jobs,

Electra up if auction fails down by 85,000 in the year to the fourth quarter of 1998. New jobs were added in services

By ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

There were 88,000 more part-

time jobs and 35,000 full-time. The number of unemployed

in the main New Deal catego-

ry - 18 to 24-year-olds out of

work for more than six months

- fell from 119,915 in April

1998, when the programme

was launched nationally, to

has levelled off. Many econo-

mists now expect the total to rise, but they believe the jobs

market is now working more

Unemployment is lower

than the level at which it would

have triggered wage inflation

below 2.5 per cent to their low-

est since March 1995.

The fall in unemployment

76,990 in January.

efficiently.

ELECTRA INVESTMENT Trust the huyout fund that rejected a £1 2hn takeover bid from venture capital group 31, said yesterday it will wind up the fund if the auction now underway fails to yield a good enough deal before 11

March. The trust's chairman, Michael Stoddart, unveiled plans for a £750m capital reconstruction if the approaches which have come in over the last few days from rival US private equity groups fail to translate into a knockout bid for the trust.

in the past. The official average US financial investors Blackearnings figures are still susstone Group, GE Capital and pended. But the new statistics Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette are due soon are expected to indicate that wage inflation is deamong those believed to have registered interest with Lazard Brothers, Electra'a advisers. This will be reinforced by the fact that City bonuses, Another American buyout specialist Clayton, Dubilier & Rice paid early in the year, are said has made a separate approach to be one-fifth lower than last for Electra Fleming, which manyear. Figures from the Engiages the trust but is not interneering Employers' Federaested in making a bid for the tion showed settlements in January, a key month, fell

Electra Fleming is jointly owned by the Electra Investment Trust and Robert Fleming, the investment bank. Talks with 3I broke down after Electra failed to persuade 31 to raise its 705p indicative offer. Electra shares rose 10.5p to 685p yes-

Mr Stoddart confirmed yesterday that both the trust and the management team had received preliminary proposals which can now be evaluated in the light of the alternative proposals announced yesterday. "What we are saying is that an alternative to an offer from another party is an orderly wind up of our portfolio," he said.

The proposals involve: - a buyback of 40 per cent of Electra's shares via a tender offer. -a halt on new investments except to meet existing commit ments or to maintain the value

of an investment; Electra Fleming will manage an orderly wind-up of the investment portfolio. The board expects the process to take a maximum of five years with "good prospects for attractive realisations of the portfolio over the next 12 to 18 months".

The reconstruction will also go ahead if a buyer is found for Electra Fleming which manages the portfolio but not for the trust. To finance the proposals, Electra Fleming has arranged £750m of bank finance underwritten by National Westminster Bank and JP Morgan.

The terms of the tender, to be announced on 11 March, will depend on a revison of the official net asset value of the group, which has been promised for 28 February Analysts expect the revised net asset value to be pitched at around 750o.

Another 3,000 jobs to go at BP Amoco

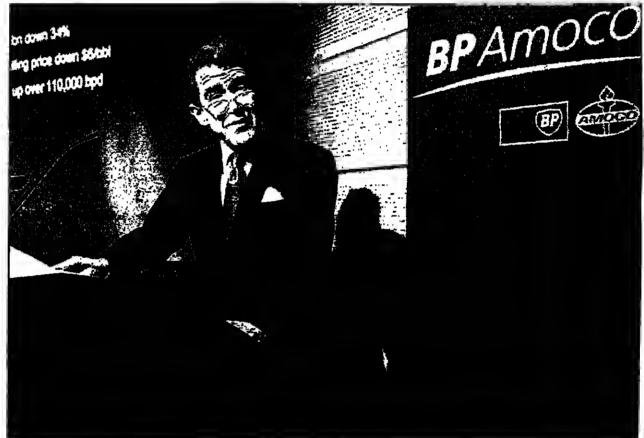
BY PETER THAL LARSEN

BP AMOCO. Britain's largest company, is cutting an extra 3,000 jobs this year as it accelerates its cost-cutting programme in an attempt to adjust to falling oil prices.

The company, which was created by the merger of British and American oil giants last vear plans to achieve cost savings of \$2bn (£1,2bn) within the next 12 months - almost a year ahead of the original schedule. As a result, 10,000 people

will leave BP Amoco's operations around the world this year. One-fifth of all white-collar staff are to be axed. The company will also slash its exploratioo budget by almost half to \$550m as it concentrates on large, low-cost oil fields.

Sir John Browne, BP Amoco chief executive, said the company had assumed that the oil price would average no more than \$11 per barrel this year. Yesterday the price of a barrel Browne said. "But it's equally



Sir John Browne, BP Amoco chief executive: Seeking cost savings of \$2bn in the next 12 months Nicola Kurtz

of Brent crude dipped below \$10 for the first time since Decem-

"We don't believe that anything much below \$11 is sustainable for very long because the fundamentals of supply and demand would be disrupted by a lack of investment," Mr

hard to see a rapid rebound of dropped by a third to £4.47bn. prices from current levels beause of the extent of stocks."

He was speaking as British Petroleum reported a 37 per cent plunge in underlying earnings to \$875m in the final quar-

Earnings for the full year the last before the merger -

Amoco also planned to add a further \$550m to its pre-tax profits this year from efficiency savings that BP and Amoco had already been planning

before the merger. However, a large chunk of the benefits will be wiped out this down 16.5p at 840p.

year by restructuring charges Mr Browne said that BP which are expected to total around \$1.5bn. The company is currently

preparing a new set of threeyear targets, which it plans to announce to the City later this

BP Amoco shares closed

Pet City founder to buy back superstore chain

THE MANAGEMENT team that BY NIGEL COPE sold the Pet City chain of su-perstores to tha US group Pets-Mart for £150m little more than two years ago is understood to be negotiating to buy the chain

back for a knock-down £15m.
The management of Pets-Mart UK is led by chief executive Giles Clarke, one of the cofounders of Pet City who made a profit of £20m on the sale in October 1996 and who also helped Associate City Editor

set up the Majestic Wine Ware-

house business He is thought to be unhappy

about a proposal to sell the UK chain to its main British rival, Pets at Home, for a reported £10m. Some experts feel a merger may run into competition problems as the combined group's share of certain sectors

of the pet market would be near monopoly levels. Mr Clarke is thought to be in talks with venture capital backers and a deal could be announced by the

PetsMart UK, which changed its name from Pet City following the US takeover, declined to comment on a possible management huy-out yesterday. Cheshire-based Pets At Home also declined to comment.

The sale of the UK PetsMart chain for such a knock-down price would represent a spectacular failure by the US group.

When it acquired the business in October 1996 it had plans to expand the business from 50 stores to over 300 and become a category killer like Toys R Us.

"Pet retailing is one of the growth businesses of the 1990s," PetsMart chief executive Mark Hansen said at the time.

Before the deal the UK husiness had captured pet lovers' attention by offering a wide range of pets including tarantulas, chipmunks and parakeets as well as hamsters and budgies.

But since then it has added just eight new UK stores and appears to be struggling. Store rents rose, competition became tougher and planning permission for new stores has been dif-

In the US PetsMart shares collapsed not long after the Pet City takeover when it issued a profits warning blaming stock mistakes and "slower sales of flea and tick products".

The company is now looking to exit the UK market. This would represent a reversal of the oft-quoted retail maxim that British retailers often struggle when they expand in the US.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

FOOTSIE clawed back more than half its earlier falls as New York turned on a stronger performance than expected. The index ended 30.2 points off at 6,078.4. Mid cap shares were also off, but small company shares made headway.

Cadbury Schweppes was the leading Footsie constituent, gaining 51p to 1,001p. A Merrill Lynch buy note helped: there was also talk of a merger with Hershey of the US. Mortgage banks were helped by a good showing by Woolwich, up 19.25p to 384.75p. Derek Pain, page 23

NEW YORK

US STOCKS were mixed after Dell Computer Corporation reported lower than expected fourth quarter sales. Shares in Dell fell as low as 76 at one point in the day, before rebounding to 82 7/8, down 5 7/8, in afternoon trade.

One analyst said: "What seems clear is the underlying fundamentals continue to be strong. It's a market leader and the first reaction is a knee-jerk reaction."

By mid-afternoon, the Nasdaq was down 13.28 points at 2,300.59. The Dow Jones was up 46.12 points at 9,343.15.

● TOKYO

TOKYO STOCKS edged lower yesterday, with the recent rally in share prices sparking a bout of profit-taking. The benchmark Nikkei index ended down 73.97 points, or 0.52 per cent. at 14,158.87. Traders said prices had been hit by the unwinding of corporate cross-shareholdings ahead of the Japanese fiscal year

Kazunori Jinnai, deputy general manager of equities at Daiwa Securities, said: "The day started well, hut as the Nikkei approached the mid-14,000 level the pressure to sell grew, led by futures selling."

FRANKFURT

SHARP FALLS in Deutsche Telekom dragged down share prices in Frankfurt yesterday.

The electronically-traded Xetra Dax share index fell 74.69 points, or 1.53 per cent, to 4,820.42. The floor Dax ended down 1.93 per cent at 4,810.09.

Shares in Deutsche Telekom, the communications giant, tumbled 3.9 per cent to 36.20 euros after the newspaper Die Welt reported that the company expected profits to fall in 1999. One trader said: "The report adds to negative sentiment about the telecoms sector."

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICAN stocks closed modestly lower yesterday, with the government's 1999/2000 budget

sparking an afternoon rally. The Johannesburg All Share Index started the day sharply lower. but clawed back losses in late trade to close down just 0.43 per cent at

Most analysts welcomed the gov ernment's pre-election budget, which included a cut in the rate of company tax from 35 to 30 per cent. One said: "It was a good budget.

It's good for business. It shows

commitment to fiscal discipline."



New Deal replaces the old raw deal

THE THINGS that matter to people, as opposed to economists, are jobs and purchasing power. For much of the past 20 years, they have had a raw deal on both in the UK. It is only in the past three or four years that a return to low inflation has seemed within our grasp, while until just recently, the unemployment rate has been above 5 per cent since mid-1980.

Initial attempts to squeeze inflation out of the economy turned out to carry a high cost in terms of jobs. In any case, to the extent that inflation was tamed by the damaging recession of the early 1980s, it was all thrown away again in the late 1980s boom. Policy mistakes allowed inflationary pressures to rebuild. These errors are not so long ago that they have yet faded in the memory, and for the time being, policy makers are determined not to repeat them. Inflation has not returned since the early 1990s recession. The experiment of inflation targeting has so far been an impressive suc-

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That hasn't stopped critics claiming that the policy obsession with beating inflation comes at too high a cost to jobs. Labour came to power staking an enormous amount of political capital on the New Deal as a



OUTLOOK

means of reducing unemployment while keeping inflation low.

The combination of these active measures to get hard-to-employ people into jobs with the legacy from the Tories of a flexible jobs mar ket now looks as though it might at last be doing the trick. Just as in the US, the unemployment rate has fallen below the figure most experts thought would trigger wage inflation, yet there is scant sign of inflationary pressure. The mix of inflation and unemployment - the misery index - is the most favourable in nearly 20 years because that trade-off seems to have improved.

Even so, successful management

been doing its bit by cutting interest rates pretty fast. The Government must continue its good work on the structure of the jobs market. This means not only pressing on with the New Deal, but also safeguarding the flexibility of the labour market. Policies like the minimum wage, working time directive and Working Families Tax Credit have started to nibble away at that. There is a difficult balance between safeguarding employees and over-regulating employers, and the Government must tread carefully if it wants the good

Convertible bonds

news on the jobs front to continue.

IT IS hard to recall when conditions were so favourable to a revival in the corporate bond market as they are now. On cue, Railtrack has taken advantage as no other of historically low interest rates to launch a series of bond issues to finance its investment plans. Now it has come up with a bond issue with a difference - a con-

On the Continent, such convertible bond issues are common, but ceptionally good credit ratings seem

investors. Nonetheless, there has been a steady stream of them in the past year from the National Grid, to Telewest and BAA.

Their appeal to issuers is twofold. Firstly, convertibles carry an exceptionally low coupon. In Railtrack's case this is just 3.5 per cent, some 2 percentage points lower than Railtrack would have to pay on a conventional ten year bond. This is even less than the Government pays for its ten year money. This is achieved by giving investors the right to convert their bonds into equity; in effect the investor trades in part of his coupon in return for the potential upside on the equity.

The second advantage is that to the extent that the investor does convert into equity, he has to do so at a big premium to the prevailing stock market price - in this case 25 per cent. It is not unknown to raise equity at a premium to the market price, but few companies find it easy. So if these convertibles are so ad-

vantageous, why are so few British companies indulging in them? Unfortunately, only companies with exof the economy requires eternal they are taking time to catch on in to be able to contemplate this

vigilance. The Bank of England has the UK-more than a half of yester-method of capital raising-hence the small enough to sell itself as a low undercut its rivals in the UK and on been doing its bit by cutting interest day's £400m issue was sold to foreign line up so far, which reads like a roll cost niche producer like the North the wider European stage, both in call of former state monopolies, top ern Rock drawer property companies and as-Bar some residual affection sorted steady revenue earners. For

> sues have proved either next to impossible, or prohibitively expensive. This could change, however. As investors become more accustomed to this form of quasi-equity, it may be possible for smaller companies, with more volatile earnings streams, to tap into this market too. If that were to bappen on any meaningful scale, it might provide a partial answer to the stock market's failure to deal with the capital needs of many smaller en-

higher risk companies, such bond is-

terprises. A ten year bond convertible at a premium into equity would seem to provide just the sort of cheap long term capital many small companies crave.

Woolwich

IF THE Woolwich did not already exist would anyone have invented it? Much as it would pain the bank's ever phlegmatic chief executive, John Stewart, to admit it, the answer must be no. It is neither big enough

among customers, many shareholders would be quite happy to sell to the highest bidder. The only problem is poteotial predators have shareholders of their own who would baulk at paying the kind of price that would leave Mr Stewart and his board no alternative but to able hoist the white flag and run crying to the bank.

The fact is that the Woolwich does exist and the poor chap has no alternative but to find some way of justifying both its and his existence. In the absence of the megadeal that the City would love to see. yesterday's tie-up with Countrywide. the giant mortgage machine found-ed by the perpetually bronzed Angelo Mozilo, does at least score for originality if nothing else.

And it might actually work. The technology Countrywide can deploy is streets ahead of anything else in the UK market. The company has o total lending book of \$220bn and has already sold \$1bn worth of mortgages on the Internet.

If the joint venture goes to plan.

the wider European stage, both in terms of pricing and the range of products it can offer.

If, as some predict, the dynamics of the UK mortgage market change sufficiently to allow widespread use of off-balance sheet finance, having a partner on board with the kind of securitisation experience Countrywide can boast, could prove invalu-

In the end, the linkup may prove a trojan horse for Mr Mozilo's wider European ambitions. Most of these joint ventures either don't work and fizzle out, or end up with one party or the other wanting to be boss and call the shots. It is not hard to guess whose pistol will pack the bigger punch when it comes to the final shootout

Woolwich has two-and-a-half years of its five years of takeover protection left to run. Even the timest UK acquisition in the meantime would result in the bridge being lowered to all comers. The Countrywide link up provides an excellent alternative to an acquisition strategy, but it is hard to avoid the conclusion that eventually Woolwich will end up as part of a larger organisation, what-

£400m issue derails Railtrack share price

SHARES IN Railtrack went into BY PHILIP THORNTON reverse yesterday after the privatised rail infrastructure monopoly launched a £400m bond to raise money to fund its investment plans.

The 10-year bond issue will ow holders to convert their bonds into Railtrack shares. This is the first time the company has issued an exchangeable bond.

The issue was oversubscribed to such an extent that the underwriters, led by Warburg Dillon Read, exercised an option to extend the initial £350m offer by £50m. The book three hours.

Transport Correspondent

closed down 77p at 1459p, "The bond issue has led to the skid. People are selling the equity to huy the bood," said Richard Hannah, an analyst at BT Alex.Brown.

Investors have the option of exchanging for shares at 1,840p, a 25 per cent premium to yesterday's mid-market price of 1,472p, effectively gambling that the shares are set for a hefty rise.

3.5 per cent - at the lower end was closed after just over of the indicative range of 3.5 to 3.75 per cent - which repre-

quired to pay with a straight We have been saying to our

Railtrack said the issue was designed to take advantage of the fact that debt was now cheaper than equity because of falling interest rates, "If we borrow now we get the lowest interest rates," said a spokes-

new issue represents an attractive financing opportu-The bond will pay interest at

An official at Warburg Dillon Read said: "The sterling con-The bond issue prompted a sents a significant discount to vertible bond market is an was based on an implied share a company could issue without | lion euros. Mr McSweeney at after Ireland joined the Euro UK banks, with the exception of fall in Railtrack shares, which what Railtrack would be re-attractive place to raise money. volatility of around 20 per cent, shareholder approval.

corporate clieots for some time that this is a very attractive financing opportunity, given the mood of investors and given what interest rates

The funds will contribute

are about."

towards Railtrack's two most immediate infrastructure pro-Norman Broadhurst, the jects - the £2.2bn upgrade of financial director, said: "This the West Coast main line to Glasgow and the £600m Thameslink 2000 project to nity which enables the com- improve, links between the pany to diversify its funding north and south Home Counbase and maintain a strong bal-ties through London. The company launched a 30-year £250m

One analyst said the bond



Broadhurst: 'Attractive financing opportunity'

well below historic volatility for Railtrack shares last year.

The Railtrack treasury official said the scope for further exchangeable bond issues was limited because investor protection rules were in place ·limiting the number of shares

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harge of the first reight's terms.

Stock Exchange investigates AIB share price movements

THE STOCK Exchange is investigating the sharp movements in the share price of Allied Irish Banks (AIB), which has been at the centre of speculation that it is about to be taken over by either Lloyds TSB or Germany's

Deutsche Bank AIB finance director, Declan McSweeney, said: "We have been in discussions with the Stock Exchange." On the takeover rumours, he said: "We have been getting calls on this every day. We have taken a decision not to comment." However, he added: "Our intention and desire is to remain independent'

Mr McSweeney was speaking after AIB reported a 42 per cent jump in profits to I£826m, making AIB the first Irish company to report profits of over one bil-

primarily to the continued strength of the Irish economy. AIB said loan growth in Ireland was 26 per cent and deposits grew by 13 per cent. He said the bank had also seen strong growth in the UK.

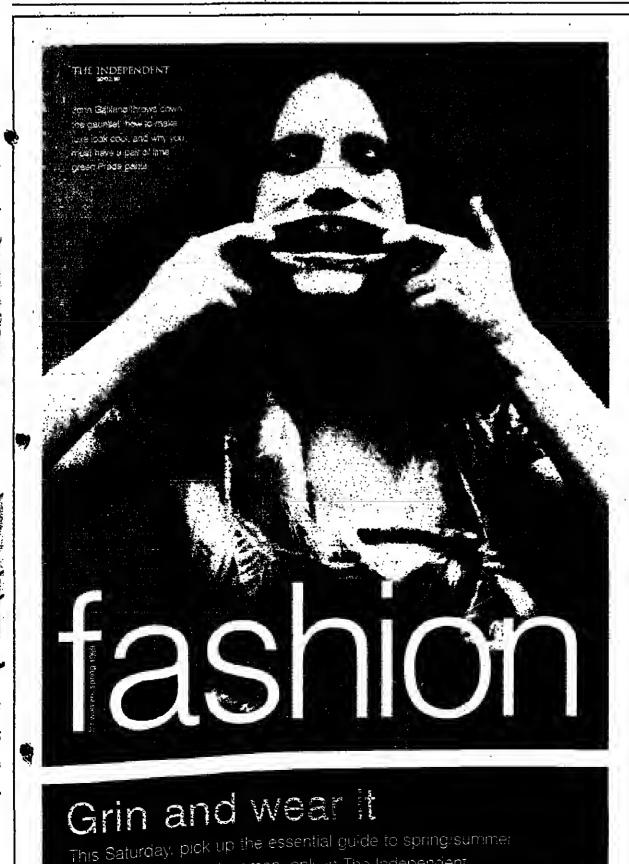
Mr McSweeney said the bank was looking for acquisitions in the US, where AIB has completed the integration of First Maryland Bancorp, and in Poland, where its 60 per cent-owned offshoot WBK reported a 30 per cent rise in profits. In the UK, he said: "We would be keen to expand the business but it is hard to find suitable opportunities."

The finance director sees little sign of the Irish economy slowing, despite fears that the move to a 3 per cent base rate tributed the strong result zone last month might push the Lloyds at 33 per cent.

boom too far. Despite 30 per cent house price rises in some parts of Dublin and a shortfall in new houses, the housing boom was still fairly soundly based, he

One worrying factor was the sharp decline in margins, a result of the general fall in interest rates and tough competition in the Irish insurance and savings market. However, strong income growth saw AIB's cost income ratio - the standard Industry measure of efficiency fall from 62.4 per cent to 54.9 per cent despite a rise in operating costs, chiefly due to acquisi tions in the US and the Polish bank which was included in fullyear results for the first time.

AIB was able to report a return on equity of 27.3 per cent, putting it ahead of all the major



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HELL WHILL WORM

A great time for consumers but it's tough on managers

IT 1S A great moment in history to be a consumer, but a ough one to be a producer.

The growing imbalance between, on the one hand, the United States and on the other, Europe and Japan, has attracted widespread attention. The US has indeed remained an oasis of prosperity and high employment, but this has been at the cost of a current account deficit of 3 per cent of GDP By contrast both the Euro 11 and Japan are notching up everlarger current account sur-

There is, however, another imbalance which has attracted rather less attention. This is the imbalance between the pressure on companies around the world and the expectations of financial markets about their performance. Of course, the position varies from country to country and industry to industry so any generalisations about the husiness sector have to be taken with some caution. Obviously the pressures on Japanese companies selling mainly into the weak domestic market are utterly different from American ones selling into their strong one. But if you are in the internationally-traded sector there are strong common factors affecting your performance, and it is possible to chart some of these.

In a nutshell, international firms are being hit by a triplewhammy: falling prices, rising costs and falling production. Producer prices - the price that companies receive for their goods - are negative in all the Group of Seven nations. This is not quite a unique experience, for there was a period in the early 1990s when producer prices went negative (see left-hand chart). But it is a sharper and already more prolonged experience, for instead of falling prices being a blip at the bottom of recession, there is now the prospect of prices falling well into the future.

18.7 - 18.F.Z.

3

Meanwhile, unit labour costs are rising, not by much to be sure, but at a faster level than for five years. The result of this is to squeeze profits percentage of GDP are now Bank will not ease for at least puts on companies.



HAMISH MCRAE

evidence unfolding on the glob-

al company reporting scene:

look at BP/Amoco and

Deutsche Bank to see two

global giants producing dis-

appointing results this week

Costs up, profits down

annual % change

Bank Credit Analyst group,

who pulled together the charts

shown here, world economic

growth has not yet bottomed

and global inflation will con-

roland growth will both move

into recession - in contrast to

growth in much of the rest of

the world - monetary policy

will not be eased. The US Fed-

eral Reserve will not ease, ac-

cording to the BCA, because it

regrets its mistake of excessive

easing last autumn, which has

But because US and Eu-

tinue to drift downwards.

96

Hardly a day goes by without news of a merger and every time you know the outcome will be the sacking of lots of workers

down close to early 1990s levease much) because it is havels. As world industrial proing to act as a counterweight duction falls (right hand to the weak fiscal and strucgraph), the annual change in tural policies of the major Euprofits has gone negative. ropean governments. This macro-economic view

of the world is endorsed by the ONE EFFECT of this intense pressure on global companies is the wave of restructuring currently taking place. The pressures mount, but the markets demand performance. They punish managements that fail So what will happen? In the to deliver - and if that sounds judgement of the editors of The an aggressive, Anglo-Saxon

THE GLOBAL SQUEEZE ON PROFITS

Ann % change

The Unit Labour Cost gap

% of GDP

90 92

sentiment, note that BMW, a

German family-controlled busi-

ness, had little compunction in

shooting the two top guys when

Thus hardly a day goes by

the group under performed.

without news of some merger,

take-over or strategic alliance.

And, of course, every time one

is announced you know that the

outcome of the deal will be the

sacking of lots of workers -

mergers are a sign of weakness,

not of strength. In the short

term this wave of restructuring

bas buoyed the stock market.

None of this, in the view of the BCA team, means that there is necessarily a long bear market in equities.

But shareholders will have to look through a dip in profits that could run on until early next year. That might seem an acceptable time-horizon, but even when the improvement comes it may disappoint - in a zero or negative inflation world profits are unlikely to rise hy more than 4-5 per cent a year. That cannot long sustain doublediglt returns on equities.

Finally, investors cannot assume that next time there is hint of trouble on the international markets the central bankers will ease rates. It does appear that last autumn the Fed repeated the mistake the central banks made in 1987 when, fearful of the economic impact of Black Monday, they cut rates when they should have held them up.

Production in recession

annual % change

That mistake created the con-

ditions for the boom/bust cycle

of the late 1980s and early

1990s. You don't need to believe

that we face a rerun of that to

be sware that the central

banks will be cautious in fu-

how does this translate into

the UK situation?

ent outcome.

So much for the global view;

efore face a rather differ

- 25

- 20

World industrial

We are normal in that we are an open economy, with foreign earnings (either from exports or from foreign subsidiaries) representing roughly half the profits of the Footsie 100 companies. We are also open in the sense that Londonregistered companies and UK gilts are liquid markets. If hig money is washing round the world looking for a home, some of it ends up here. If big money is running scared, our markets will take a hig hit

along with the others. We are, however, abnormal in that we have had a huoyant economy which has been curbed relatively early in the cycle by a sharp rise in interest rates. You can have a dehate as to whether this rise was too sharp, and whether rates are heing cut fast enough now. But we are also an economy which will hump up domestic demand in response to rate cuts - a function of the impact of short-term rates on mortgages.

SO IF DEMAND does falter globally, it ought to be possible to stimulate demand here by cutting rates. The government also has leeway to ease fiscal policy, having clearly tightened it by more than it intended. (The switch to self-assessment has resulted in unplanned surpluses, though it is almost certainly a once-and-for-all adjustment because of earlier payments, rather than a lasting rise in revenues.)

So there is considerable leeway here for easing, which may well be needed, hut also a prospect of the great British consumer rising to the occasion if and when his or her ser vices are needed. Consumers, not just here, but everywhere have an opportunity that hardly anyone has ever experienced - the possibility of goods in the shops becoming cheaper and cheaper and cheaper.

There are two main points But that will not help the here. In one sense we are completely "normal" and global squeeze on profits. If it is great to be a consumer, it is therefore will experience extough to be a manager. And to actly the same forces as other be an investor? I think it is puzdeveloped nations. In another zling - and unravelling the we are abnormal, and may puzzle will preoccupy the markets through the rest of this year



terday announced pre-tax profits up by 11 per cent to £505m

Woolwich links with **US** mortgage giant

THE WOOLWICH yesterday By ANDREW GARFIELD teamed up with Countrywide Credit Industries. America's fourth-largest home loans provider, in a deal which paves he way for the introduction of US-style discount mortgages

nto UK and European markets. The announcement, coupled with a £236m special dividend payout to shareholders, throws down the gauntlet to low-cost providers such as Northern Rock, which last month said it was looking at US-style securitisation as a way of offering cheaper, more flexible deals. Yesterday's move, which

surprised analysts, was well received in the City. Woolwich shares rose by more than 5 per cent in a falling market to 384.5p. Profits before tax were ahead of expectations at £505m. a rise of 10.8 per cent.

The 15p-a-share special dividend comes on top of a 10.6p

Alfied Curpets(I)
Alfied Irish Banks (F)
Dobbles Garden Cent

Frompert Leisure (f)
Frompert Leisure (f)
Future Integration Tele
Mittner Estates (f)
Reflec (SP)
Stop & Leitunce Group
Woodwich (F)

Turnover (£)

136.806m (138.803m)

4,08m(3,79m) 3,464m(4,468m) 22,57m(19,23m)

0.863m(0.921m) 12.30m(11.85m)

Financial Editor

ordinary dividend payout, up 11.6 per cent on last year. Countrywide has an outstanding loans portfolio worth \$220bn (£135bn), almost of all of it securitised. It is by far the largest US independent lender.

Angelo Mozilo, the Sicilian-American who helped found Countrywide in 1969, said the Los Angeles-based group had been looking for a European partner for two years before settling on Woolwich.

He added that, while he did not see the deal leading to a merger, there might "at the end of the road" be "some sharing of equity at a de minimis level". The deal, details of which will

COMPANY RESULTS

0.05p (7.25p) 58.8p (48p) 18.27p(17.22

be fleshed out in April, will mean Countrywide taking over

Pre-tax (£)

0 059m (9 505m) #A 826m(580m) 1 43m(1 02m)

-0.976m(-0.280m) 3.45m(2.75m)

the UK, where it will introduce its own automated systems.

The operation will focus int tially on servicing Woolwich's existing mortgage husiness. However, the plan is then to market itself as a low-cost subcontractor for mortgage processing services, both to other UK lenders and to operators clsewhere in Europe.

Mr Mozilo sees huge oppor tunities for reducing costs and introducing US-style mortgage products into the UK and Europe, particularly as the costs of servicing mortgages at Countrywide are half those at

Woolwich currently in the UK. John Stewart, the Woolwich chief executive, said vesterday's deal would position the group to take advantage of the low interest-rate environment that is putting pressure on the management of the 10 margins, and of the opportuni-Woolwich processing centres in ties thrown up by the euro.

Pay day

10 05 99

26.02.99

06.04.99

X-div

06 04 99

D8 D3 99

07.06.99

Dividend

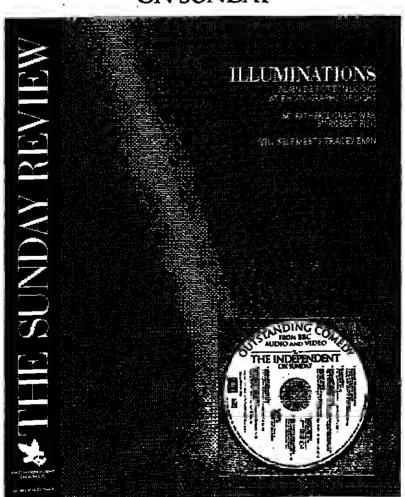
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IN THIS WEEK'S

exacerbated the boom in asset hut the pressure on profits has

prices. To this one might add also extended the already

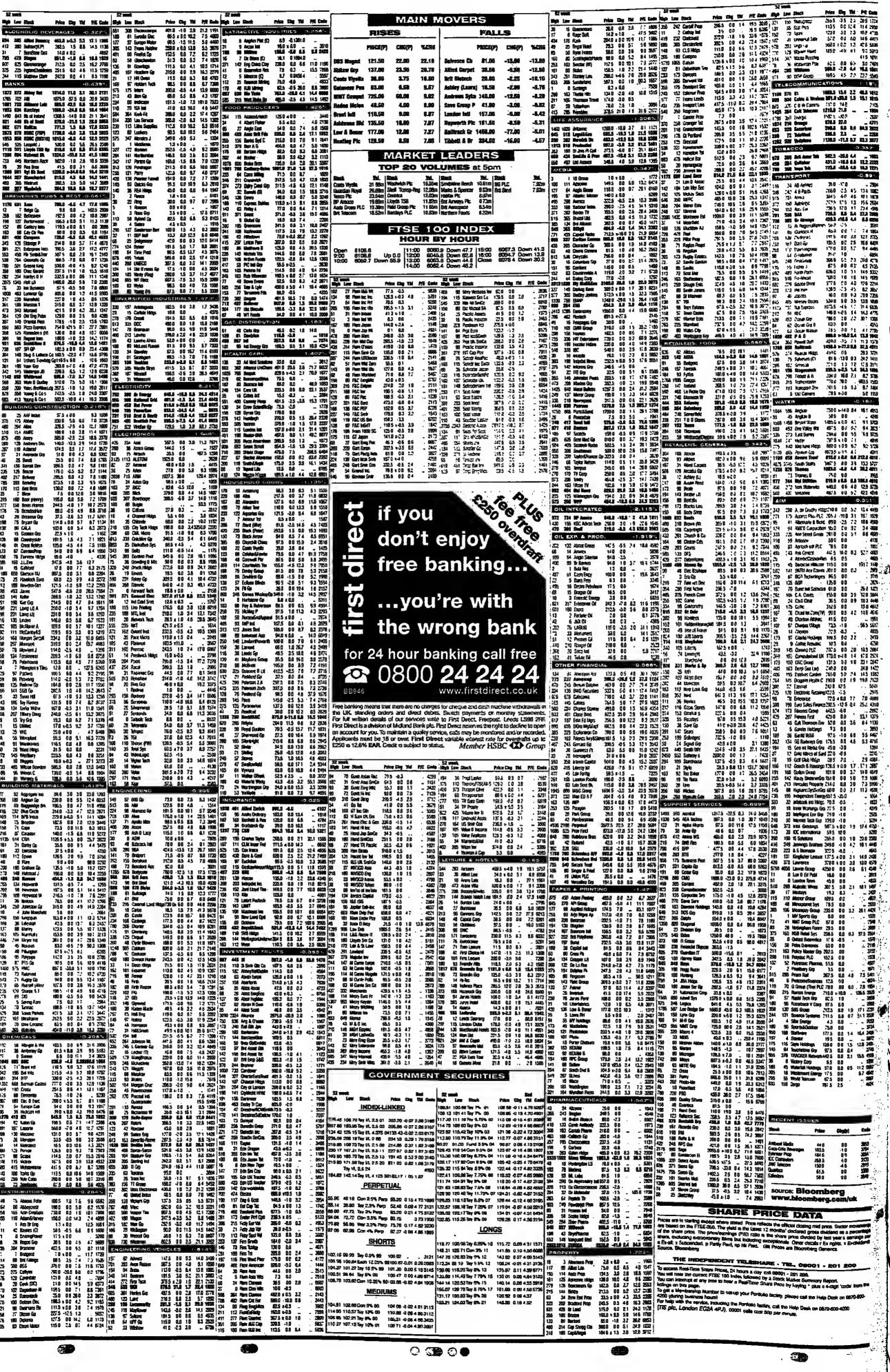
THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



REE EXCLUSIVE

FEATURING: Alan Partridge, Blackadder, The League of Gentlemen, The Fast Show, Fawlty Towers, Only Fools and Horses, Ab Fab, Goodness Gracious Me and Harry Enfield and Chums





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1998

2.12

82 00

42.00

Gastrointestinal

AstraZeneca drug sales

1999

10.37

1 80

91.40

46.50

Respiratory

*Mesnii Lynch Lorecus

1997

2.11

me Managara

Zeneca profits slip to £1.1bn ASTRAZENECA: AT A GLANCE

Trading record

Profit for the year (£m)

Earnings per share (p)

Dividends per share (p)

Zeneca share price

3000

2000

1500

000

Turnover (Ebn)

Sweetener from | Cadbury peps up jaded Footsie

CADBURY SCHWEPPES offered a tired stock market the sweet hint of merger activity as stories swirled of a deal with Hershey, the US chocolate group.

The shares rose by 51p to 1,001p in busy trading, with an upgrade from Merrill Lyuch, on the surface at least, seemingly responsible for the

But it was the rumoured Hershey deal that attracted some buyers. They latched on to the thought that Cadbury will be cash-rich once it sells its non-US soft drink operations and is looking around for confectionery deals.

The group aims to develop its US soft drinks business. based on the Dr Pepper and Seven-Up brands. But the world's fourth-biggest chocolate maker does not enjoy much of a direct involvement in the US - in fact only its Creme Eggs - where Hershey makes and sells its products under licence.

Cadbury, believes the market, is keen to close such a yawning gap in its worldwide

SHIELD DIAGNOSTIC firmed 7.5p to 475p. Nomura believes the fair value will be around 2,700p following the merger with Axis Biochemicals, the Norwegian group.

Once the deal goes though - agreement is expected later this month Shield will move into profits much earlier than f it remained on its own. The bealthcare group has had a volatile time of it. with its shares swinging between a 32p low and a peak of 805p.

confectionery network and is keen to open talks with Hershey - indeed, if it has not aiready done so.

Merrill Lynch lifted its advice on Cadbury, as well as Unilever, to buy. It expects Cadbury to produce profits of £612m, up from £575m. The investment bouse is looking for a £500m share buyback and has a 1,125p target price on the

The market had a relatively uneventful session, although blue chips halved early falls as New York turned on a better-than-expected display. Footsie closed off 30.2 points at 6,078.4, ending a four-day winning streak

The mid cap index weakened 26.4 points to 5.174.5, but the small cap beld its winning ways with a 2.4 gain to 2,250.5p.

Mortgage banks attracted attention as Woolwich, up 19.25p to 384.75p, came in with an 11 per cent profits rise to £505.1m and plans to shake up the British mortgage market. It also endeared itself with a higher year's dividend and a special 15p-a-share payment.

Alliance & Leicester, seen by some as Lloyds TSB's next target, rose 42.5p to 886.5p and Abbey National 11p to 1,314p. Halifax, year's results today, missed out, gaining just 1.5p (after 39p) to 771.5p.
Allied Irish Banks, with

222 62 South M 42,495 Tahvan 8775 0 Thalland 0,3036 Turkey 89,000 UAE

MARKET



PAIN

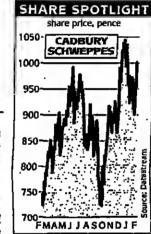
the ever hopeful boys in dark glasses now looking for a bid tomorrow, lost 57.5p to 1,075p following results.

Oils weakened as the Brent crude price slipped below \$10 a barrel. BP Amoco, with disappointing fourth-quarter results, fell 16.5p to 840p and merger hopefuls Enterprise Oil lost 7.5p to 242.5p and

Lasmo 2.5p to 115p.
British Airways climbed 13.25p to 429.25p as Morgan Stanley set a 525p price target, but Hays, the business support group, fell 16.5p to 570p after the same investment house suggested the shares were overpriced.

Unigate, up 18.5p to 401.5p, responded to ABN Amro comments that the shares were undervalued; there were also hopes of a share buy back.

Railtrack was shunted into the sidings, down 77p to 1,459p. It is tapping the capital market for £400m with a



bond issue. PowerGen dimmed 34.5p to 833p after a US group opted out of the second round of bidding for its

coal-fired power stations.

Electra Investment Trust, facing a hostile strike from 3i, firmed 10.5p to 685p after proposing a buyback of up to 40 per cent of its capital.

Corporate action returned to the market undercard. Sidlaw, a high-yielding packaging group, rose 23.5p to 137p afterrevealing bid talks; some believe Bunzl bovers with a near-170p bid.

Football got on to the bid score sheet with offers for Wembley and Leicester City. Wembley jumped 21p to 378.5p after the company revealed another approach, thought to be from a US group, with a minimum 412.5p offer. If the Americans, or earlier bidder Enic, acquire the famous twin tower stadium, England's games will almost certainly be switched to

another venue. Leicester, up 5p at 42.5p, was said to be the likely sub-

ject of a bid from a consortium of supporters.

Two financially challenged football clubs joined the day's action with cash-raising exercises. Loftus Road (Queens Park Rangers) fell 1p to 13p after a £2.3m cash call at 13p showbiz chairman, Chris Wright, and Millwall held at 1.15p after raising £300,000

Chemical group Brent International, where talks are on, put on 9.5p to 110.5p, on the suspicion a deal is near. around 150p a share is one story. Reed Executive jumped 19p to 110p on rumoured interest

Coats Viyella rose 3.75p to 39p after attracting a £322m price for its engineering arm compared with earlier estimates of near £200m

The inevitable profit warnings took their toll. Slug & Lettuce, blaming its northern pubs, wilted 22p to 160.5p and Christian Salvesen, the logistics group, reversed 13p to

HUNTING, the oil and defence group whose last reported profits were nearly £39m, firmed 8.5p to 128.5p after it joined forces with the Defence **Evaluation and Research** Agency in a bid to renew its government

the atomic weapons establishments. They are worth around £2.5bn.

contract problem.

AB Airlines, which arrived 12p to 35p following a bleak trading statement. Allied Carpets rolled out profits of just £59,000 and fell 5.5p to 38.5p.

group, lost a third of its value at 2p as it at last revealed details of its cash-rising exercise. It is placing shares with institutions and other investors at 1p each, which it hopes will pull in £2.45m. The issue is not underwritten.

Carbo, the engineer, hardened 1.5p to 16.5p as its management, led by Ken Jackson, met institutional investors. Last week the group took over an Italian industrial abrasives business for about £4.1m.

Topps Tiles, a leading specialist tile retailer, firmed 8.5p to 168.5p after Peel Hunt made positive noises. It sees the chain continuing to grow, with profits this year emerging at £5.6m, up from £4.1m. For the year after the broker is looking for £8m.

DBS Management, the financial group, rose 22p to 121.5p: it was among the final 41 firms removed from the pension mis-selling list.

SEAO VOLLIME: 970.7 million SEAO TRADES: 84,785 GILTS INDEX: 114.62 -0.05

www.bloomberg.com/uk

and a £1.4m loan from its through a share placing.

Rumours of further bid

action continued to circulate.

management contracts for

The new contract starts in April next year. The defence group's shares have fallen from the peak of 275p that they reached last summer.

81p after disclosing a £3m

Reflec, the reflective ink

its Swedish rival Astra, yesterday revealed that a £130m currency hit had caused a drop in 1998 earnings.

In its last results before the Astra deal, Zeneca said that the strong pound wiped around 12 per cent off group operating profits, pushing the pretax figure to £1.063bn, 2 per cent down on 1997. Zeneca sales also suffered a £208m blow due to the strong pound, ending 1998 at £5.5bn, 6 per cent up on the pre-Sir David Barnes, the chief

throes of a £48bn merger with

executive, defended the company's performance and said that the results showed strong that the merger can be con-

ZENECA, the drug giant in the BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

Sir David Barnes, Zeneca chief executive, announcing yesterday's results Tom Cruig

underlying growth. He added that, excluding currency effects and a £44m expenditure on the millennium bug, pretax profits and sales were up 10 per cent.

Sir David, who is to become deputy chairman of AstraZeneca, dismissed fears that the merger, set to be approved by Zeneca's shareholders today; could be delayed by anti-trust regulators on both sides of the Atlantic, He said that last week's requests for more information from the US and European authorities centred on

"relatively narrow areas". "We continue to be hopeful

1999) as planned," be said. But even assuming that AstraZeneca is waved through, questions remain on the combined group's future growth. The key issue is wbether the two companies have the drugs to fill the gap left by the expiry

cluded in the second quarter [of

of patents on some of their

blockbusters in two years' time. Between 2001 and 2002, Zeneca will lose exclusive rights on Zestril, its £600m a year hypertension product, while Astra will lose protection on the antiulcer treatment Losec, the world's best-selling drug. Together, the two products make up some 30 per cent of As-traZeneca's sales of over £10bn.

ecutive designate of the combined group, yesterday said growth will come from 14 new products set to be launched by 2001. AstraZeneca was also looking at licensing more compounds from smaller companies. The problem is that the new products are not growing as fast as expected and may no

be enough to plug the hole left

by the waning blockbusters.

Yesterday's results seemed to

confirm these fears and caused

a 41p drop in the shares to

500 199495 96 97 981999

£25.76. Seroquel, Zeneca's antischizophrenia treatment sold £39m last year compared with

Tom McKillop, the chief extreatment, reached sales of £61m but was hit by a downturn in the market for respiratory

Mr McKillop yesterday maintained that sales growth will pick up and claimed the \$1.1bn of merger savings would also help, but some analysts remain

The worries over the future are reflected in the new group's discount to its UK rivals. Zeneca's shares - a proxy for the merged entity's stock - trade on around 28 times 1999 earnings of around £1.8bn. This is wellbelow the 30-plus forward multiples of other drug giants such as SmithKline Beecham and

Internet billings drive WPP growth

WPP, the advertising group BY NIGEL COPE whose shares have more than doubled since the stock market last year, continued its good run yesterday with a 19 per cent increase in full-year profits and a pledge of more growth to come. However, the shares fell by 4 per cent to 464.75p as investors took profits after the

recent strong run. WPP, whose businesses Ogilvy & Mather, saw billings rise by 10 per cent to £8bn, helped by high-profile campaigns such as IBM's e-busi**Associate City Editor**

recovery started in autumn ness campaign as well as others for Ford, Unilever and American Express. Internet billings, itemised

separately for the first time, totalled \$120m (£74m) as the group's clients increasingly took banner advertisements on popular websites.

Margins rose by a full per-The group's target is to reach 14 per cent in two years, while spending. longer-term aims could be to attain the 15 to 16 per cent level

reached by top rivals such as Omnicom, Fixed costs, principally

salaries and property costs, are now below 50 per cent of revenue. Variable costs such as staff incentive payments have risen as a proportion, giving WPP a cushion in the event of

a downturn. Analysts said fears of recession could have driven some profit taking yesterday as casualty of any fall in consumer

WPP's chief executive, was

positive on growth prospects, particularly in the US and continental Europe, there are worries over Latin America and the

WPP is gradually shifting the balance of its business so that it reduces its reliance on advertising, which now accounts for less than 50 per cent of group revenues. Growth sectors include specialist communications in areas such as e-

corporate identity work. On current-year profit fore-

market, but high for cyclical businesses such as advertising and public relations. However, the group's broker, WestLB Panmure, points out

That is still at a discount to the

that the current year's 10 per cent organic earnings growth will be supplemented by infill acquisitions and a £50m share buyback that will further enhance earnings. This could lead to further

strong rally private investors Although Martin Sorrell, casts of £240m the shares trade institutional shareholders and on a forward multiple of 23. lock in some profits.

Last dance for Bronwyn

ONE OF the most admired chief economists in the City, Bronwyn Curtis of Nomura International, has inexplicably left the firm.

announced yesterday that the Australian former ballerina "has decided that she does not want to undertake the additional travelling in Asia which will be necessary to implement effectively the shift in emphasis in the euro research work".

We all wish Bronwyn well she has been a leading light in ing practical jokes. the Square Mile in the past few

Final deadline

BRUCE KINLOCH, who died

yesterday, was one of the old

school of business journalists. He started work on the Daily Express just as the Second World War broke out. He knew everyone who has been anyone in newspapers and the

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

By John WILLCOCK

The Japanese-owned bank world of property for almost 60 years, starting with Lord Beaverbrook and Charles

Clore. Property tycoons loved him because he treated them as real people and was not afraid of them. Some of them were quite afraid of him because he had an endless repertoire of alarm

He once telephoned a colleague who ran a small publishing company and pretended to be a Lincolnshire clergyman and publisher of religious tracts whose copyright had been infringed. He kept the conversation going until his peals of laughter became audible across the room.

His weekly property columns were unique. He was fond of top quality people, mis-

chief and laughter, champagne and cigars. His prize possession was a note signed "I owe Bruce Kinloch £10" signed by Dylan Thomas whom he met in a Fleet Street pub in the fifties. Our sympathies go to his widow Madeleine and their four

Beware of rats

DRAGONS, TIGERS and monkeys are leaving a trail of destruction across the country. according to CGU Insurance

A survey conducted by the insurance giant's 24-bour belpline for the start of the Chinese New Year reveals that people born in the year of the drivers, while rats have the most mishaps in the bome.

The poll, taken from a sample of the 49,000 calls the helpline handles each month, highlights the widely differing claims from people born under each of the 12 ancient Chinese

signs of the zodiac Apparently monkeys are three times more likely to have a motor claim than roadwise dragons, says CGU.

Happy returns

MICHAEL HARDERN, the selfstyled "carpetbagger-in-chief". is celebrating his birthday at Claridges, the art deco London hotel, at 7pm today.

It will be fascinating to see if any bosses of the remaining mutual building societies turn up to play "bad fairy".

DTI advice

STEPHEN BYERS, the man who stepped into Peter Mandelson's shoes at the DTL has appointed a second special adviser in addition to Dan Corry, monkey appear to be the worst the one he inherited from the previous regime. The new girl is Jo Moore, a former stalwart

of spindoctors Westminster Strategy and a long-time Labour egghead.

In at Thistle

THISTLE HOTELS has two new non-executive directors, courtesy of Brierley Investments of New Zealand, which has a 46 per cent shareholding in the

Tan Sri Quek Leng Chan and Rupert Morley have been appointed to replace the two existing nominees, Rodney Price and Paul Collins. Tan Sri Quek Leng Chan is

chairman of the Hong Leong Group in Malaysia and of Camerlin Ltd, a major sharebolder in Brierley Investments. Mr Morley is the operations director of Brierley's London Of-

ugly hotels in Britain, opposite the Tower of London, has also appointed Andrew Bould, chief operating officer, to the board.

E-mail: j.willcock@indepen-

dent.co.uk

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SPORT

Fruit of years of fudging and fear

EVER SINCE footballers stopped wearing bicycle clips and counting the notes in their wage packets. people have been saying that what England need is an inspirational manager who'll fill out the team sheet, give the players a slap on the back and a cheerful word, and send them out to enjoy themselves. Remember, they say, the careless rapture of Joe Mercer's hrief term. And imagine what old Cloughie would have done, given the chance. According to this theory, it's not much more than a weekend joh. Instead, we've heen given a series of men bowed down by diagrams, dossiers and doubts even before they faced their first press conference.

But now, thanks to the Football Association's decision to appoint the freewheeling Kevin Keegan as coach of the senior team for their next four games, the notion will finally be put to the test. Now we're going to find out whether or not heart-on-the-sleeve enthusiasm is what it really takes, and



RICHARD Williams

whether off-the-cuff enthusiasm can be more effective than full-time

Keegan is a terrific fellow, good at establishing rapport with players and fans, absolutely wholehearted in his enthusiasm. But whatever his virtues, and whatever the euphoria greeting the announcement, the odds must be against a happy ending to the venture.

The FA's conduct of the search

been lamentable, specifically in the to test the reaction of possible candidates. If proof were needed that David Davies'a talent belongs in the fantasy world of New Labour's spin-doctors, then the past fortnight has provided it. Keegan, according to both Davies

and Geoff Thompson, the FA's acting chairman, is the nation's choice. But what about Alex Ferguson, who was the FA'a original target? And in their panic, they appear to have given in to just about all Keegan's lished. Today Wilkinson will apdemands. Including, or so we were told two days ago, a willingness to contemplate the idea of restricting the presence and influence of the technical director of the Football Association.

in another of these leaks, would take no part in the activities of the England squad, and would not be invited to sit with them during international matches. This is a man who, only a week ago, was deemed suitable to

Howard Wilkinson, we were told

is a man entrusted with the develtawdry use of controlled news leaks opment of young players in England - the man most responsible, in effect, for the future of English football. And already, even before the new management team have

even collected their monogrammed tracksuits, he is said to be persona The fact that Wilkinson is not the man to coach England's senior side is neither here nor there. Nor was the FA's hurried spin-doctoring of the leak once it had been pubpear at the press conference at Keegan's side, and the two will no

doubt attempt to paper over the crack. But the substance remains, and in this casual insult we see the true desperation of the FA's international committee. Here is the fruit of years of expediency, fudging, fear, vanity, and sheer bad judge-

Look - as we must, if we really want to learn anything - at France, whose display at Wembley last The men at the centre of the a guarantee of success, as the Ger-

authentic world champions. The skill, strategic awareness and deep pride of those players was not the product of improvisation or expediency. It was the result of careful planning and diligent execution.

When Aimé Jacquet won the World Cup with this team last summer, he had an extra medal struck and presented it to Gérard Houllier, the technical director of the French Football Federation, in recognition of the supporting role Houllier and his department had played in a sustained and carefully co-ordinated campaign, Houllier had been his predecessor, now Jacquet has become technical director, while his own deputy, Roger Lemerre, has assumed control of

Throughout the Nineties, these men led a team which revolutionised the coaching structure of French football, integrating every level from the very youngest children to the elite of the national team.

week was the performance of scheme were not flashy characters with big reputations as former players. They lacked obvious charisma. None of them could ever have been labelled "the nation's choice", in the sense that they would win tabloid popularity polls. But they are serious men with a belief that the only way to get results is to do the job with rigour, and with absolute co-

operation at all levels.

They agreed on common aims, and they carried them out with immense determination - sometimes in the teeth of vicious criticism from influential voices in the French press. Their bosses never wavered in support. And it worked, providing a textbook example of what can be achieved through strategic planning, while demonstrating that such care need not be at the expense of expressive, even artistic football-that, indeed, it may become the artistic footballer's greatest resource. Just ask Zine-

dine Zidane. Mere planning alone can't provide

will also point out that it can give you a pretty good 30 years or so before you need to return to the drawing board. And if improvisation and inspiration are what's wanted. I would personally feel safer at Ronnie

Scott's than Lancaster Gate. Keegan will take the job on a tidal wave of goodwill. His own reaction to success and failure will reflect the fact that he is a creature of moods, and the more likeably human for it. It will suit him that the short-term and part-time nature of the appointment takes a lot of the pressure off his shoulders. The excuses are built-in. He, and we, could be in for a lot of fun, or a lot of tears. This is, after all, the coach who put Asprilla and Ginola in the same team. But he is also the man who abolished Newcastle United's reserve team, without getting round to installing Sir John Hall's much-vaunted youth

development scheme. Inspiration and improvisation will have to do, then. Best of luck all

Gambler's instincts galvanise Keegan

Adventurer as both player and manager is prone to flashes of temper and faces roughest trip of them all. By Phil Shaw

e terminology which turned ther Frank had saved 30 m Joseph Kevin Keegan OBE must have been an Indiana Jones or Captain Hook figure. For if there is one quality that defines his managerial style, and indeed his entire footballing career, it is his spirit of adventure. Many in his precarious profession - the Grey Hair Club, as Keegan memorably called it - disdain the concept for its gung-ho, devilmay-care connotations. George Graham visibly squirmed when, after Tottenham's FA Cup tie at Leeds last weekend, a reporter asked about their "adventures" in the knock-out competitions. Keegan positively embraces it in a way that sets him apart from any of England's eight previous

As a player, Keegan always took risks in terms of where he would ply his trade. He left Liverpool, for instance, when they were just beginning to dominate Europe, plunging himself, his wife and two young daughters into an alien culture in Hamhurg. Then he joined Southampton in preference to Juventus, a decision he admits he has not been able to rationalise, and after a thrilling swan-song at Newcastle he simply dropped out of sight, or on to the golf courses of Marbella.

Having been coaxed back to manage Newcastle, he embarked on his greatest escapade until England came calling. Throwing money at the transfer market and caution to the wind, he led one of the game's serial under-achievers to within touching distance of the Premiership title. It ended in glorious failure, but Keegan did not retreat to Spain again, instead pitching up at Fulham for another adventure: to fulfil the fanciful ambition of their owner, Mohamed al-Fayed, to become "the Manchester United of the South".

The curious aspect of Keegan's swashbuckling style is that his formative years were spent on the breadline - an existence which, in others, is calculated to eucourage a cautious, safety-first approach to life and work. For example, the England manager who made him captain of his country, Don Revie, was born and hred in a poverty-stricken area of Middlesbrough, a fact which appeared to influence both the parsimonious way his teams played and what many observers saw as his obsessive attitude towards money.

Keegan was born, 48 years ago last week, into a mining family at Armthorpe in South Yorkshire. His late father, Joe, who had come "south" from Durham to find work in the pits, suffered from chronic bronchitis (although, intriguingly given his son's football philosophy, he

IN A PREVIOUS incarnation, to liked to gamble), while his grandfainto a trip-wire for Glenn Hoddle, a pit pony in a disaster in the early part of the century.

A family of five, they moved to a terraced house in the centre of Doncaster, where the young Keegan first sampled the cut and thrust of football in 25-a-side struggles in the narrow streets. He was good, but he was small. While working as a cierk in a brass works, he attended trials at both Coventry City and Doncaster Rovers, only to be rejected by both on size grounds. Instead of settling for being a good local footballer - he played three times every weekend he set about adding strength to his prodigious stamina. Sustained weight training paid off in 1968 when Scunthorpe United signed him as an apprentice. A nippy striker, he quickly graduated to the first team and gan attracting the top clubs.

Bill Shankly, the legendary Liverpool manager who himself hailed from the Ayrshire coalfield, saw his chance. On May Day 1971, he paid Scunthorpe £35,000, a sum he later described as "robbery with violence", and put Keegan on £45 a week. Even then the newcomer showed that he was nobody's fool, arguing that he felt he was worth more and settling for the then princely wage of £50.

In tandem with the towering John Toshack, his career blossomed. The following August he scored in front of the Kop 10 minutes into his debut: within 18 months he had won his first England cap; and three years after arriving at Anfield he had League champions, FA Cup and Uefa Cup winners' medals.

Most players would never have considered moving on at such a stage. Keegan, unfairly dismissed as a selfmade rather than naturally gifted footballer saw a move to Europe as a chance both to develop his technique and maximise his earning potential His final game for Liverpool was the victorious European Cup final of 1977. after which he headed for the Bundesliga. After winning successive European Footballer of the Year awards. he joined Southampton in 1980, but there was to be no winding down.

His first coming at Newcastle, two years later, saw him score a debut winner and describe playing before "thousands of passionate Geordies" as an experience to equal anything in his life. But then Keegan's emotions have never been far from the surface; if Hoddle wore his mind on his sleeve, with calamitous consequences, Keegan has always pinned his heart there.

More often than not he is as bubbly as the perm he once sported. However, there is a darker side to his openness. Outhursts like the one he would famously direct against Alex











The Keegan years: Main picture: Spurring on Fulham. Clockwise from left: As a 14-year-old associate schoolboy with Tranmere Rovers; letting fly on television in 1996 after being riled by Alex Ferguson; minus his Liverpool shirt after being sent off in the 1974 Charity Shield against Leeds; kissing the FA Cup as Liverpool celebrate their 3-0 victory over Newcastle in 1974 Allsport/Mirror

Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, during the psychological duel which ran parallel to the championship run-in of 1996 are part of a

pattern of volatile behaviour. Though never a dirty player, he had a short fuse which led to his being sent off in one of his early appearances for the England Under-23 side. More dramatically, he was dismissed with Leeds' Billy Bremner after they came to blows in the

be in his first squad, he announced earnest. They were promoted withhis international retirement and did not refrain from criticising the new manager in the media.

After his seven-year, self-imposed exile on the Spanish greens, during which he broke his silence only to vow that he would never become a football manager, he leapt at the invitation to take over at Newcastle seven years ago this month. Again, though, the Tyneside "Messiah"

He stopped seeing the local press on a daily basis. After a defeat at Coventry, he hurried to the coach, stony-faced, skipping his usual charm offensive on the media

Charity Shield, of all matches, and was not slow to demonstrate a mercompounded his offence by throwing curial temperament. Five weeks down his shirt on the touchline. In view of the role he has now

taken on, it is also instructive to recall his reaction to rejection by England as a player. In 1975, when Revie left him out against Wales, Keegan walked out claiming it was "the end of my international career". Seven years later, after Bobby Robson

into the job, he stormed out over what he considered to be broken promises about resources to strengthen the side.

His No 2, Terry McDermott, persuaded him to return. Newcastle avoided relegation to the old Third Division - and probable extinction on the final day of the season. Then failed to inform him that he would not the roller-coaster ride began in

in 12 months, after which Keegan proclaimed with the bravado that so endeared him to the Toon Army: "Tell Alex [Ferguson] - we're coming to get him."

They nearly did, too, never more so than in 1995-96, when at one stage Newcastle led the Premiership by 12 points. They finished runnersup to Ferguson's United. For all his power to motivate and inspire players and fans, it was apparent that beneath the charisma and the refreshing willingness to attack, there were flaws in Keegan's ability to organise his team, especially in defence. In a tacit admission of his own shortcomings, he brought in Lawrenson, the former Liverpool centre-back, as specialist coach to the back four.

His relations with the media whose capacity to break England managers is now beyond dispute also soured. He refused to speak to the BBC for several weeks after what he saw as unfair questioning by Tony Gubba following a fracas between Faustino Asprilia and Man-

chester City's Keith Curie. Soon he stopped seeing the local at bottom-placed Coventry, he hurried to the coach, stony-faced, skipping his usual charm offensive on the media. Within a fortnight, during

which he looked morose even when Newcastle scored, he was gone. When Keegan left St James' Park two years ago last month - pushed out to appease the City, he later suggested - he had still not brought significant silverware to Tyneside. At Fulham, where he arrived as al-Fayed's "chief operating officer", he was again unable to resist stepping back into the manager's role after

parting with Ray Wilkins last May. Keegan planned in time to step back into an "overseeing" role. Yet he takes training, sits on the bench at matches and is "Gaffer" to the players. He again spent freely, but has been less cavalier in his tactical approach. Last week, preparing the Second Division leaders for what proved a gallant FA Cup exit at Old Trafford, he was once more denying interest in a job he would ultimately be unable to resist. But the game, he argued, was all about adventures. The roughest and toughest of them all is only just beginning.

THE WORLD **ACCORDING** TO KING KEV

I believe I can live with any situation in which I find myself. If I were going into the ring with Muhammad Ali, Pd honestly believe I deserved to be there. I wouldn't think of being knocked ont, only of winning

Many people have belped me on my way, but only one person made me, That was Shanks (in praise of Bill Shankly)

Tm finished with England, I'll never kick a ball for my country again. After 10 years and 60 caps, I deserve better than to learn of my omission indirectly through the media (after being left out of Bobby Robson's first squad)

If anyone ever hears that Kevin Keegan is coming back to football full-time, they can laugh as moch as I will. It will never happen. That is certain (leaving to live in Marbella)

1992 You hope and you pretend you know what you're doing (after entering management at Newcastle)

As a manager you always have a gun to your head. The question is whether there's a bullet in the barrel (on selling Andy Cole)

I would love it if we beat them [Manchester United]. just love it (after psychological warfare by Alex Ferguson)

There's only one team that's going to win it now and that's England (as World Cup pundit, a minute before Romania scored winning goal)

Whoever the FA have chosen. good luck to him. But it's not me, so I hope no one's had a (last week, insisting he was "not interested" in managing

England)

... AND HOW OTHERS SEE HIM

1981 Kevin Keegan is the Julie Andrews of football Duncan McKenzie

Skill-wise, he's not fit to lace my boots George Best

1993 As a player, Kevin had 75 per cent ability and 150 per cent fitness. He had to do it by hard work, and it influenced others when be became a manager Tommy Smith

If Kevin fell into the Tyne he'd come up with a salmon in his mouth Jack Chariton

WHENEVER A tragedy occurs in boxing, it is certain to be said that

even greater efforts must be made

to ensure that fighters do not put their lives at risk from dehydration.

improvement in the sport's medical

supervision, but events leading up

to last week's World Boxing Coun-

cil super-middleweight hout

between the champion, Richie

Woodhall, and Vincenzo Nardiello of

Italy indicate a need for more puni-

By his own admission Nardiello

was almost 5lb over the stipulated

limit of 12st a few hours before he

stepped on the scales last Friday

tive action.

Admittedly, there has been a big



est, it is not unreasonable to



sauna. In the interests of safety, the Italian, who was reported to be visibly undertrained when providing Woodhall with a sixth-round stoppage, should not have been allowed to box and, at least, fined

for coming to fight in such poor

However no action was taken by the WBC supervisor, Houcine Houichi of the African Boxing Association, who, if not empowered to withdraw Nardiello from the contest, could have sought the sanction of the WBC president, Joe Sulaiman, who was in Las Vegas.

Unsurprisingly, commercial interests came into play. Minus two of six world title fights advertised to pay-per-view customers, Sky television was unlikely to countenance the loss of another.

The promoter, Frank Warren, held the view that Nardiello's purse should he withheld pending an investigation, and was angry when decision we might take to safeguard week left for preparation. Fine in a coma at the Albert Hall in London Joe Calzaghe, who is under his man- a boxer's welfare," he said. "For exagement, proved to be a pound over when weighing in for a World Box-

Boxing must never ignore the safety factor

ing Organisation super-middle-weight defence against Robin Reid. Since no great fuss was made about any of this on the radio commentary I heard, I raised it with the to take that risk." British Boxing Board's general secretary, John Morris.

lack of action on the Board's part, allowance has to be made for the potentially disastrous effect of litigation on its fragile economy. Morris now supposed to be 10 per cent withmakes no secret of this. "We are not in the stipulated limited 30 days be-

ample, unless a scan provides irrefutable evidence that someone should not be allowed to carry on. it becomes a matter of opinion that could go against us in a court room. We simply don't have the resources

Following one of the bleak events in recent years that brought fresh When seeking explanations for attacks on boxing, the Board inwhat sometimes appears to be a troduced a system of weight monitoring that was expanded last year at the WBC's annual convention.

Contestants for WBC titles are in a position to legally defend any fore fight time, five per cent with a

that every boxing national boxing authority will observe the requirement. It was not, apparently, in Nardiello's case. Nevertheless, since he was in Newcastle three days before going up against Woodhall, the WBC had ample time to enforce its regulations. The trouble is that Houichi, maybe fearful of liti-

fuel for the abolitionists. The inevitability of another bad night in boxing is always with us. In May last year the super-bantamweight Spencer Oliver slipped into safety factor.

gation, was not prepared to risk a

run-in with Sky Television. This was

loose thinking on his part - a fresh

theory, but there is no guarantee when defending his European title against Serhiv Devakov of the Ukraine.

Fortunately, Oliver survived the crisis, but the suspicion was that he had been finding it difficult to meet the weight in his division.

For anyone to take lightly the decision that allowed Nardiello to go through with his challenge to Woodhall suggests an attitude that pays no serious account to the obvious dangers of boxing. It is all very well to suppose that Nardiello knew more than enough to avoid harm hut in the hardest of all sports there is never a case for ignoring the

Ireland turn to in-form Woods

IT WAS bound to happen sooner or later, so perhaps this is as good a time as any. Niall Woods, quite outstanding both as a goal-kicker and a try-scoring left wing throughout the first six months of the current Allied Dunbar Premiership campaign, will make his first Five Nations appearance in very nearly three years when Ireland take on Wales at Wembley on

"Niall's promotion will in no way weaken our side," pronounced Warren Gatland, the national coach, yesterday. True, Warren. Very true.

Woods replaces Girvan with a hip injury. Without criticising Dempsey in the slightsuggest that had Woods faced the reigning French Grand Slammers at Lansdowne Road 12 days ago, rather than their scheduled for 6 November, was second-string A team at Donnybrook the previous evening, the Irish would be travelling to London today with a precious championship victory already in the bag. A heartbreakingly nerve-ravaged display of goalkicking by David Humphreys, the Ulster stand-off, handed the Tricolores their scarcely cred-

ible triumph on a plate. Deeply suspicious of Woods'

co will meet representatives of go.

Scotland, Wales and Ireland in

London today in a bid to secure

the future of the European

where we want to go, we will

BY CHRIS HEWETT them, Gatland was prepared to go only so far in rehabilitating

the London Irish finisher. "Humphreys will continue as kicker," confirmed the coach. "He is experienced in the role, he has had plenty of practice over the last 10 days and his confidence is high." For all that, Woods will take over the instant Humphreys fluffs a kickable three-pointer against the Welsh.

biggest games in this autumn's World Cup, including the final yesterday eased when Leo Williams, the tournament chairman, received assurances of its completion by Welsh

However, Williams openly plans were in place. Wembley, Murrayfield and the Stade de France in Paris are thought to some understanding."

have been identified as possi
At least Philippe Sainthave been identified as possidefensive capabilities, or lack of final and, while Williams in- front man, understood him. down Kingsholm way.

FRENCH LEGEND Serge Blan- then go where it seems good to under the auspices of the Eu-

England and France could try

to organise a competition with

the southern hemisphere coun-

The meeting does not come

It has been suggested that



All tied up: the England captain, Lawrence Dallaglio, shows his players the ropes during a kick-about at yesterday's England training session

This weekend's fixture is sisted that he had no intention taking place in the shadow of of delivering any sort of ulti-Dempsey, the Terenure College the twin towers only because matum to the WRU, he said that wing, who withdrew yesterday the new Millennium Stadium in alternative provision had been Cardiff remains a work in made to comply with insur-

progress. Widespread concern ance requirements. because of him But now we that the £120m ampitheatre Meanwhite, Richard Hill must play well each week. might not be ready to house the confessed 'yesterday' that his 'Tiere will not be a revolution' coach had left him "disappointed and upset". Hill surfaced in Leeds, where he took charge of the England A team preparing for tomorrow night's awkward fixture against their Scottish equivalents. "If you Rugby Union officials. take one backward step - and, admitted that contingency sometimes, you have to in order to move forward - you're out of a job," he said. "It takes

Blanco talks to Celts on Europe

ble emergency venues for the André, the new Gloucester

ropean Rugby Council but is

merely an attempt at mediation.

The main stumbling block to an

agreement is how the profits

from the tournament should be

er Andrew Lamerton have won

Wales call-ups for Friday

night's A international against

Ireland at Ebbw Vale. They get

The Bridgend centre Steve

shared out

"Richard said 'c'est la vie'." smiled the former French wing and captain. "I am sad because I didn't want to take Richard's place. I am here at Gloucester because of him. But now we abrupt sacking as Gloucester's in one month, though. Maybe in

15 months." One of Hill's constant criticisms of his under-achieving squad was their lack of fitness. Saint-Andre, however, though touched with rugby genius, has a reputation which suggests his line of thinking is more on the wavelength of Willie Duggan, the old Irish Lion, who once said: "The quickest way to take the edge off your form is to go

These are interesting times

Cardiff centre Leigh Davies

and the Swansea hooker Garin

.Tenkins have been promoted to

the senior Wales squad that

counterparts 20-8 in Edinburgh

spired by five Arwel Thomas

penalties and a Nick Walne try.

Wales A squad, Digest,

Wales A beat their Scottish

plays Ireland on Saturday.

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Were positive we can help

Rusedski's class proves decisive

Blanco, now the president of tries if the Celtic nations fail to

the French national rugby agree a package. The former union governing body, will also France full-back said: "With the

bring a message from the Eng. English we have made great

land camp. Blanco warned: "If progress. We only need to make

the Celts don't want to join us an agreement with the Celts."

GREG RUSEDSKI raised his game in the final set to secure a 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 win over Nicolas By DERRICK WHYTE Kiefer in the opening round of the ATP world indoor event in Rotterdam yesterday.

The British No 2 won the opening set on a tie-break but Kiefer, from Germany, rallied to take the second and level the match. Rusedski regained his composure in the final set, however, and outplayed Kiefer, a finalist in Dubai last week, to wrap up victory.

Rusedski held serve in the opening game of the final set before breaking Kiefer's serve with a cross-court pass that clipped the net and landed on the line - to take a 2-0 lead. Kiefer fought back to force a break point on the Rusedski serve, but the British No 2 saved it with a wellhit smash under pressure and went on to take the game, con-

solidating the break. Kiefer, who reached the final of last week's Dubai Open, then received courtside treatment for an injury to his left ankle which was heavily strapped

in Rotterdam

before he was able to continue. The German held his serve for 3-1 and did so again in the sixth game, but Rusedski was still in control on his own serve as he moved into a 5-2 lead. Kiefer held for 5-3 before Rusedski sealed victory on his

own service game. In the first set play went with serve for the opening 10 games but Kiefer survived several close games on his serve before edging in to a 6-5 lead. Rusedski held to take the set to a tiebreak, where he built a 3-0 lead. Kiefer bounced back to lead 5-4, hut Rusedski kept his

nerve and took the game 8-6. After his efforts in the tiebreak a complacent Rusedski lost his service in the first game of the second set. Kiefer took advantage and raced into a 5-2 lead before eventually winning the set. In the third, however, class Rusedski's superior class told.

Triggs keeps the youngsters at bay

Winn and the Pontypridd hook- a fortnight ago, the victory in-

month's tour to Argentina to in- BY BILL COLWILL troduce three uncapped players. His selection, which ner specialist Calum Giles is a includes the highly experienced cia, also gives an early oppor- doubt as to whether he will step goalkeeper Simon Triggs, and 21-year-olds Tom Bertram and George Cover to stake a claim for selection for the Champions Trophy in Australia in June

BARRY DANCER, England's Australian coach, is using next

and the European Cup in September The 28-year-old Triggs, after a string of impressive club performances, has been named ahead of the mnch younger Harvestehuder club in Germany, and Teddington's Jon

Ebsworth, England's junior World Cup goalkeepers. Cover, essentially a right sided striker in the Sean Kerly mould, is an imaginative choice with a distinct view to the future while Bertram is a defender of

The inclusion of penalty cor-

surprise choice, although there Julian Halls and Russell Gar- must still be a considerable tunity to the Canterbury on to the plane. Giles has not resumed full training since a knee operation just before Christmas and will have to prove his fitness. If he goes he will need to do much more than score goals at penalty

corners. Because of the new substitute rules which were introduced after the World Cup last June, he can no longer be rolled Nick Taylor, currently with the on at the set-piece where in the past he has scored 52 goals in

past He Das Scored 52 goals III
53 appearances.
ENGLAND SOURD (Argentina born, 22
March - 6 April; B Wheele (capt), C
Glies, D Wisook (Southgate), B Barras,
M Pearn (Reading), G Cover (Havati).
D Half (Guildord), J Halle, J Lewis, B
Sharpe, M Johnson (Cannock), 5 Driggs (Canterbury), B Garrand, J Walls (feddington), R Garcha (Harvestehuder), T
Bertram (Bournville).

WOMEN'S EH CUP Guarter-Espis Oneimsford v Bradford; Fyffes Leicester v Clifton Scottish Life Hightown v Otton Terraquest; Slough v Doncaster, (Ties to

ame

Sedgefield tragedy: RSPCA labels incident an 'unavoidable accident' but other welfare group condemns trainers

Animal Aid blames poor schooling

THE JOCKEY CLUB yesterday identified two possible causes of the head-on collision at Sedgefield on Tuesday afternoon which left three horses dead and a scene which, according to one of the jockeys involved, "was like a battlefield".

John Maxse, the Club's spokesman, said that a report on the incident had been received from the racecourse yesterday morning. In the opinion of the local stewards, "the first factor was a well-intentioned attempt to try and catch one of these horses, and the other was that the last race being a bumper, the hurdles had been dismantled, meaning that there was an obstacle-free run for these horses back down the racecourse. In the past it has been found that the hurdles act as an obstacle and help siphon off loose horses to the exit gates".

The collision occurred as the field in the novice chase was turning for home on the second and final circuit. Three riderless horses, which had all parted company with their jockeys at the first fence, had turned and galloped back up the course after the first circuit.

One of the riderless horses, Skane River, was among the fatalities, along with Floss The Boss and Royal Scimitar, from the main body of the field.

The death toll was the highest in a single race since last year's Grand National, and was not the first such incident to occur at Sedgefield.

Neale Doughty was seriously injured in a similar collision at the course in 1989, and BY GREG WOOD

the novice hurdler Gus Cunningham refused and unseated his rider at the first, and then ran loose. A collision was avoided only by good fortune.

The scenes at Sedgefield received widespread coverage, both in the press and on television, prompting a number of animal welfare organisations to express their concern. Andrew Tyler, the director of Animal Aid, claimed yesterday that the horses concerned had been inadequately schooled. "The horses concerned were novices and it seems that they were not ready to jump."

Tyler went on: "It was a horribly stressful event for them. This was a particular incident which no doubt will be brushed aside by the authorities as an unfortunate one-off, but when the British public enjoy their racing, I would urge them to consider that more than 200 horses die on the track each year, and when their racing days are finished, there is no money from the racing authorities for a happy retirement, except for a happy few. Many of them end up in pet

Bernard Donigan, an equine specialist with the RSPCA, said that "under normal circumstances, loose horses would leave the course at the exit ulate on what the results might gates. It was attempts to secure the loose horses which appeared to turn them away from the exit gates. Having viewed the video and read the interim report, it was an unavoidable before the next meeting. If it

Ron Barry, the Jockey Club's inspector of courses, visited Sedgefield yesterday. "He hopes to identify ways in which the exit gates could he made more accessible to loose horses." Maxse said. "It's something we've already done at other courses. At Perth, for example, we've almost created a layby situation where the rail is re-

At Sedgefield on Tuesday, however, the horses did not get as far as the exit before turning around, "You can have all the safety measures in place in the world, but sometimes you can't legislate for loose horses," Maxse said. "They are a very unpredictable quantity."

aligned to take them towards

The only cause for relief in Tuesday's incident was that none of the riders involved suffered serious injury. Lorcan Wyer, who was thrown several feet into the air when his mount Royal Scimitar collided with Skane River, rode in three races at Musselburgh yesterday afternoon, "Obviously crowd safety is paramount but one possibility is that they could create a new chute near the saddling boxes and horses' boxes as that is the area where the

loose horses tend to go," he said. The Jockey Club's inquiry into the incident will now continue. "Obviously I can't specbe," Maxse said, "The full findings will be available to the public at some stage. I will know later in the week whether any changes will be implemented





The pictures beamed into betting shops nationwide of the novices' chase at Sedgefield on Tuesday in which three loose horses collided with the rest of the field. The jockey Lorcan Wyer (top) was thrown 10 feet into the air. The incident resulted in the deaths of three horses

tonshire cricket club chairman,

tenham, where Barna Boy will

be looking to extend his im-

pressive Festival sequence.

The winner of the County Hur-

dle in 1997, he was fourth in that

race last year and was also

fourth in the Coral Cup in 1996.

Both go straight to Chel-

Jones fined after Gunner's long-shot victory

A TRAINER was was fined £210 hy the stewards at Folkestone yesterday after Surprise Gun-instruction H14. Lambourn, was called in by the stewards after the nine-yearold romped home in Bilsington Handicap Hurdle.

They asked her to explain the horse's improved form compared with his previous run - at Ludlow on 10 December - where he had been beaten in excess of 129 lengths.

trainer's explanation, but since she had failed to report that to give the horse an endoscop-Surprise Gunner had been struck into during the Ludlow

20-1. Merrita Jones, based at Mrs Jones said: "He got struck the Festival was shaken up into badly and he lost his confidence quite hadly. He's a hrave little horse."

The Folkestone stewards were also in action after the first race, the Burmarsh Novices Hurdle, in which the Paul Webber-trained Running Man, an

6-11 favourite, was pulled up. Webber was unable to shed The stewards noted the any light on Running Man's flop and the stewards called for a vet

ic examination.

yesterday following news that RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Broganier (Sandown 4.30) **NB: Maurachas**

(Taunton 4.20)

Cyfor Malta will miss the re-

The Martin Pipe-trained sixyear-old had been a 10-1 chance

race they took action over her Fancy, who is to be trainer Jul- Cheltenbarn showpiece after been two months or more away, night that Barna Boy (County failure to abide by Jockey Club ian Smyth-Osbourne's first run- his victory in the Grade Two Pil- he would probably have been Hurdle) and Ehullient Equiner at the Cheltenham Festival. lar Property Chase at Prest- OK, but the vets said it would name (Stakis Casinos Final)

> A rule change allowed six- kicked on, and as he is only six Lynn Wilson, the Northampyear-olds to compete in the and his future is ahead of him, Martell Grand National this I decided it would be fairest to at the Festival. year and Cyfor Malta, who was put him away for the season. given 11st 4lb in the Aintree weights unveiled last week, say the least, as the news came was a 16-1 shot for the National with Hills.

But Cyfor Malta, winner of the Cathcart Chase at Chel- I had backed him accordingly." tenham and John Hughes Tromainder of the season with a leg phy at Aintree last year, has

some heat in a foreleg. David Johnson, in whose colours Cyfor Malta runs, ex- 25-1. The race was won hy Arctic in William Hill's list for the plained: "If the Gold Cup had

"I am absolutely gutted, to

as a shock to me, as I really did think he would have taken all the beating in the Gold Cup, and Hills later cut Dorans Pride

to 8-1 from 9-1 for the Gold Cup and also shortened the Pipetrained Hanakham from 33-1 to

Nicky Henderson said last ond at Uttoxeter the other day."

FIRST SHOW TAUNTON 4.20 Raddiss Receiver 5-1 7-2 4-1 5-1 4-1

tribulgiic;	6-1	11-5	11-2	8-1	11-2
ounds Pyre	13-2	7-1	6-1	7-1	13-2
perion York	13-2	14	152	7-1	9-1
legect D.Cose	15 9-1	8-1	54	B-1	9-1
orlecture	10-1	81	8-1	9-1	9-1
dka Run	52	9-1	70-1	& -1	9 ·1
oranarange	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1	14-1
erachae	14-1	16-1	16-1	14-1	14-1
as Pinch	12-1	14-1	16-1	16-1	14-1
micks View	15-1	14-1	20-1	151	151
wisty	25-1	20-1	20-1	25-1	20·f
tal Of Honor	20-1	22-1	25-1	25-1	20-1
ensureland	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1

Henderson added: "Barna 251 251 251 251 251 Boy will have a racecourse gal-Jack Sound 33-1 25-1 20-1 33-1 33-1 lop, while I was very pleased with Ebuilient Equiname's sec-Each-way a quarter the origin, places 1, 2, 3, 4 C Coxal, H William HR, L Lackwokes, S Stanley, T Tale

HUNTER CHASE POINTERS

GREAT TRETHEW

(13 Feb) Knight Of Passion was most im-pressive in the Ladies Open. Mak-ing all and jumping well, the seven-year-old was clear from the third last fence and coasted home ily the fastest time of the day.

WETHERBY (14 Feb) Red Rebel was a most unlucky lossure to win when making a bad mis take three out, the seven-year-old finished strongly to be beaten just a length by Solba in easily the festrun race on the card.

MILBORNE ST ANDREW (14 Feb) Charite Strong impressed in the restricted. Never far away, the six-year-old went clear from the second last to score by an easy 12 lengths from Miss O'Grady in the fastest time of the afternoon.

: ; *

The second secon

SANDOWN

HYPERION 1.50 Neat Feat 3.25 Tom Brodle 3 55 Avostar 2.20 Stepasideboy (nb) 2.50 Salamah 4.30 Ezanak

GOIN G: Good (Hurdle course - Good to Soft in places).

A Right hand course; seven testing fences along back straight; run-in of 300yds.

Course is on A307, 4m S of Kingston. Esher station (service from London, Waterloo adjons course. Check brochure for all prices. ADMISSION: Club 216, Junior Club (17 Ciyrsi EC: Grandstand & Paddock St0; Park enclosure ES CAR PARK: Free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: O Nicholson 21-99 (272%), J Old 18-53 (34%), M Hen 14-96 (143%), P Hobbe 13-51 (255%), J Gifford 13-22 (07%), P Nicholla 13-38

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: O Nicholson 21-99 (272%), J Old 18-53 (34%), M Henderson 14-96 (143%), P Hobbs 13-51 (255%), J Gifford 13-22 (107%), P Nichols 12-38 (316%), ELEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody 31-125 (246%), A P McCoy 20-102 (196%), A Maguite 17-67 (195%), J Osborne 16-85 (188%), M A Fitzgerald 14-112 (125%), B FAVOURITES: 121 wirs from 348 races (success rate 34.8%).

LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS. Tom Brodie (125) has been sent 282 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Palasmon (visored 4-30), Ezznek (430).

1.50 FREE CHIPS ALL DAY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS H'CAP HURDLE (E) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,918

Assumum, 10st. True introducto weight: Hoperque std (bit, Merlins Bay St 7th, I Do The Jokes St 2th.

BETTING: 4-1 Doctor Bravious, 5-1 Neat Feat, 6-1 Bultilinch, Nordansk, Mazileo, 7-1 Compass Pointer, 8-1 Dark Romance, 12-1 Merlins Bay, 14-1 Punting Pete, 20-1 others
1996 Nordance Prince 7 til 6 S Kelly (5) 10-3 Mass V Williams; 6 ran FORM GUIDE

Neat Fest: Has done little wrong and not disgraced against lower weighted rivals in the soft when 4th to Kinos Cross at Wincanton last brie. Likes Wincanton (three wins there but obvious chance today with opposition weak

Punting Pete: Handcapped on Insh form and legitly med on debut here when pulled
up behind Grey Shot at Cheltenham in November (12th lower here)

Nacalesis Four times a fast ground winner and stiff task on good/soft at Ascot last time
(6th to Renzo). Fine chance at weights in his first handscap

plate: Ascol winner in 1996 but may need this, his first run for two years
Buttlinich: Winner at Market Rasen and Worcester on good to firm ground. Latest success in the surmer and may struggle on the surface
Compass Pointer: Appropriated the better ground to beat Heart at Huntingdon last season. May find this ground too testing, though latest form (4th to Bowcliffe Court at Lecestest sections). tery risk workers out was Dear's Romance: Won mares' race in soft at Towcester and decent latest showing in 3rd behind Wilmotts Fancy and Bora Bora at Hereford (2m3f). Sure to figure in this week

handcap
Doctor Bravious: Bang in form, following a seller win here with a Plumpton success
from Studio Thirty when 6th out of handicap. Roces off same mark today
Hipparque: 21-length 4th to Forever Noble at Huntingdon on reappearance but has
shown nothing in two handcaps since
Mortlins Bay: Shift task at Accord on reappearance and a faller at Windsor next time.

Faded two out at Native King's race here last time. Will appreciate weaker grade today and not out of it with low weight.

| Do The Jokes: Besten long way on all starts, finishing 7th of 9 to Pietro Bembo at

VERDICT: Mentine Bay is likely to prove the pick of Josh Giford's pair and wouldn't be a surprise winner off a feather weight. Neat Feat has been against better horses than these and just has to be on the short-list even humping the big weight. Doctor Brevious is another with claims after a win from out of the humping as Phimpion, but DARK ROMANCE gets the nod after her takest fine effort against Wilmott's Fancy.

2.20 REG HOPKINS & TONY KING NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (D) 55,250 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value 53,987

Africhtum: 10st. True handicep weight: Cleymore Led Set 8th. BETTING: 3-1 Looks Life Trouble, 9-2 Blowing Rock, 5-1 Stepssideboy, Kinnehella, 0-1 Act in Time, 7-1 Land Vocallet, 10-1 Whaley Warrior, 10-1 Claymore Lad 1996 Swing Cuartet 8 10 8 C Lievestyn 2-1 (N Trettor-Devies) 8 ran

FORM GUIDE

Stopasidoboy: Winning ponter and scored over hurdles at Plumpton last term. Easy winner from Tompetoo and Jazzmen at Windoor in December and can progress further Looks Like Trouble: Rook advantage of Princetuls tall to score at Doncester and now 7th worse with the 11-length second, Lead Vocalet. The type to improve Act in Times Looked set for further wire winner beeing Mouse Bird at Cheltenham (2m5f), Hated ecit ground esterwards at Stratford and then spit Kurddea and Country Beau her Wistey Warmior: Lightly-raced and over fences for first time. Without a run for a year but chance on his 5-length 3rd to Good Lord Murphy at Warwick (2m4f) 13 momitis ago Lead Vocalists Formerly useful sort but showed little at Wincanton and Follestone prior to chasing home Looks Like Trouble at Doncester. Gets 7th pull for 11-length beeting Kinnerhelle: Stayed on to catch Decyborg at Wincanton and then found trip (2m3f) too short at Exetic Beaten by Boots Madden in soft ground at Stratford (3m) last time. Chances and won over hurdles at this ficture last year.
Blowling Rock: 2'-length 2nd to Salent Cracker here last time effer stiff task and 4th to Stomysterweather at Craterhern. Upped in distance today, drying surface in his favour Citingmore Lad: Madden and tailed off in Drum Battleth novice at Hereford (soft ground) Stormyfairweather at Cheterham. Upped in distance today, drying auritice in his favour Ctaymore Lad; Maden and tailed off in Drum Battle's novice at Hereford (soft ground) use time. Saft task here

VERDICT: Kinnshalls won over hundes at the fixture 12 months ago and the mans seemed to find the ground too soft last time. There was plenty to like about Stepaside-boy's writing performance at Windsor and he seems to have been rested for this bet-ter ground. Act in Time enters calculations on his Cheftenham win on his reappearance and LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE could be the type to progress after a Doncaster aucess.

2.50 TELEGRAPH HILL NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 addad 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,983

DETYTING: 7-4 Selemen, 5-2 Red Goard, 4 Ashley Paris, 8-2 Brown Led, 10-1 Deliah Blue, 25-1 Sielgist 998. Country Seau 6 to 8 R Durwoody 9-to lay (J King) 7 min

FORM GUIDE

Salamah: Not over-impressive when making all to best Explain This 5 lengths at Taunton (2m11 nov soft), but looks a major player on previous 16 lengths 3rd to Hidebound at Ascot in Dec (2m nov. soft), Should be suited by soft course. Brown Last: Overcame some poor umping to beat Forever Noble 31/s lengths at Doncaster (2m nov. good) but will need to improve again in the company. Red Guard: Had 3 subsequent winners behind when leading 2 out to beat Premier Generation (rec 2b) 2 lengths over C&D in December, Suited by sound surface Ashtay Paric Irish Group Three mick winner for Charles O'Brien at 3. Off the course 19 months and making hurdles debut, but one to note in the market. Stelight Of Hand: Some ability when 22 lengths 3rd to Forever Noble at Humangdon in Nov. Desponding bleet start and has player to find here. Sophomore: Some ability on Flat for Barry Hills but did little to justify his 20,000gns pince litig when 34 lengths 7th of 8 to Beacon Silver at Chepsbow (2m nov, good) Delitish Blaze: Half-sister to useful chesser Listen Timmy, 6 winner in New Zealand, having her first run over hurdles. Steble back in form the week. FORM GUIDE

first run over hurdes. Stable back in form this week. Sente Court: Little promise in two starts, the latest when 36 lengths 6th of 9 Wilmort's Fancy at Plumpton (2m1f maden, soft)

VERIDICT: Josh Gifford's patience with RED GLIARD is finely being rewarded, and the good-looking gelding reaped the benefit of a taster surface when scoring here in becomber. The form has worked out particularly well, and he can exploit his Flat speed to curpoint the front-unning Salasman.

3.25 LONDESBOROUGH HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 added 2m Penalty Valua £7,935

-4 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Dines. 5-2 Tom Brodie, 100-30 Big Mett, 4-1 Dantes Caveller 1998. Edradon Bisu 8 11 8 A P McCoy 11-6 for (Mas H Knight) 4 ran FORM GUIDE

Big Matt: Peakad with Punchestows win from Lord Doroet last backend and ran close to fits best when bin 7 lengths by Super Coin at Ascot (2m hosp, good) in Nov. Diese: Progressive novice Game witner from Dawn Leader over C8D in Dec and far from degraced when failing to give 8b to Engles Rest at Kempton (2m nov. heavy) lease! Tom Brodler Found the ground too soft when 18 lengths 3rd to Mulligan at Doncester last time, but big chance on previous 2"/, lengths win over Dr Bores at Weitherby Dentes Carvaller: Impressive when scoring over C3D lest March and not degraced under stiffish mark when 8 lengths 3rd to Storm Damage at Kempton (2m4f hosp, soft) VERDICT: Though his jumping is ter from blemish-free, DINES has shown himself a doughty fighter and he looks the "dark horse" against three exposed rivals. He probably found the ground too soft at Kempton lest time, but should have conditions to suit

3.55 WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H)

_		\$2,500 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £2,108
1	22U1-2	AVOSTAR (18) (R G Russell) Mrs C Bailey 12 12 4 Mr 8 Police
2	UTI-12	BRIGAD STEARE (12) (SIT Michael Connell Lady Connell 10 12 1 Mine H Jaylor (
1	3333-P	GALE TOI (25) (R Cook C Birdt 10 12 1
	F5H2/	IDIOTIC (680) (D) (BF) (E Knight) P Charmon 17 12 1
,	12014	MILL O'THE RAGS (19) (CR (Richard Arnes) N (Gno 10 12 1
	P21/4-	PONTOON BRIDGE (375) (CD) (J S Swindelle) J Swindelle: 12 12 1 Mrs. K Dinaste
•	03500-	SAVUTI (289) (U) (Mrs 6 Buckland) G Brown 10 12 1
•	4/221-	TRUE STEEL (324) (CD) (Jon Trice-Rolph) Jon Trice-Rolph (3 12 1 _Mr J Trice-Rolph (
•	F45-1	AROUND THE HORN (39) (C) (D) fMrs D Gressili Mrs D Gressil 12 ft 17 Mr D Horse
D	0/0P-6	DE JORENAN (167) (K Text) K Tork 12 11 10
i	U2130Y	MARCHING MARQUIS (708) (D) 69 D Brown () Brown () 11 TO Mr T (Stoney (
2	50P53-	PANT LLIN (277) (F L Matthews) F Matthews 13 11 10
3	P22-30	REPEAT THE DOSE (19) (CD) (FR Jackson) 8 Breen 14 11 10
4	20343-	SPUFFINGTON (324) (D) (W J Turcan) MJ Portfet 17 11 10
6	2555-3	STRONG MEDICINE (11) (CD) (Dr 0 B A Siki Heather Sik 12 11 10 Mr P Bull (
6	3342-	THE MILLMASTER (327) (M J Gingell) M J Gingell 6 TI 6 Mr P McAllester (7)
		- 16 declared -

BETTING: 7-2 Avostar, 4-1 Around The Horn, 6-1 Strong Medicine, 0-1 Marching Merquie, 0-1 True Steel, 9-1 Gale Tol, 10-1 Broad Steene, MBI O'The Rays, 12-1 Pontoon Bridge, 14-1 others 1998: Lucky Dollar 10 11 10 Miss P Robson (5) 4-5 Jar (S Shirley-Beavan) 5 ran FORM GUIDE

Awastan: Towcester specialist, Ranely out of first two when he completes and timestime scorer last term. Good 2nd to Halcham Boy in Ampton point-to-point on reappearance Broad Steame: Winner of Hereford maiden hunter chase last term and succeedul in Garthorpe point on reappearance, but beaten at Kingston Blount since Gale Tab: Major player on 34 lengths 3nd to Lake Kariba at Warwick a year ago for Paddy Mullins but well below his best in point on raturn. Effective at 2m4f Paggy Mullins but were designed in point of research as each of the designed of the design of the designed of the design of the

since when moderate 4th in point on reappearance Sevent: Winner twice over fences in Ireland. Showed little for Toby Belding less term and having first run for new connections. True Steek: Belated first hunter chase win over C&D lest March,but will struggle to conirm plecings with MilO'The Rags on 6lb worse for 6 lengths

True States passed was name chase was now color sets was continued and officer placing with MBCThe Regs on 6th worse for 6 lengths. Around The Horn: 11-time winner over fences, including 2m success here. Something to find on last sessoris form, but 20-1 winner of Cottenham point on recipierance be Jordania. Useful in his prime but on the slide last 3 seasons and little obvious chance on Sedgefield running behind Uncle Bart in September. Bitarching Marquist: Smart nowce hundler for Noel Chance 2 seasons ago, with 6th to listoring at Chelenham. First run for new yard and chase debut. Park Lim: Thoroughly exposed veteran without a win for 4 years. Repeat The Dode: Chelenham Festival winner in 1992. Feeling his years now Spuffington: Formerly disappointing sort for Josh Gafford and without a win since 1995. Fair 3rd to Magnetic Roel over 3m here last March, but more to do Strong Medicine: Useful hendicapper for Ken Beiley two seasons ago, Promising 6 lengths 3rd to Lusty Light in Cotterham point-to-point on return. The Millimaster: Little sign of ability under Rules 2 seasons ago, but progressive in points last term, with win at Ampton from 7 starts.

VERDICT Avostar has recurred where he left off lest season, putting in a good effort at Ampton, but the trip might be on the sharp side for this veleran. He also has to concede 8lb to STRONG MEDICINE, whose spark appeared to have been retanded at Cottenham. He is ideally suited by this trip and will have capable handling.

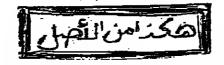
4.30 LEATHERHEAD NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £3,061

FORM GUIDE

Tempestuous Lady: Disappoining and puled up behind Bosuns Mate at Newbury last month following impressive Leicester and Ludlow wins in weak company. Burn Out: Runner-up to Subje Influence in weak Huntingdon novice in Nov but dismonth following impressive beloester and Luction while in weak company.
Burn Out: Furner-up to Subtle Influence in weak Huntingtion novice in Nov but disappointing since and looks weighted up to the hit
Newby End: Has not progressed in expected manner since 3rd to Double Tempo at
Windsor (2rvist nov. good). Return to sounder surface could help.
Pelsemon: Worcester novice winner in Sept and creditable 3 langths 5th of 12 to Sette
The Day at Whiterinon (2rvist hosp, soft) talest. Visored first time here
Whisting Burtes: Nosely weighted on 5 lengths 3rd to Hellstorm at Luction test term
(2rvist, good). Linsuited by healey ground on return but possibilities here
Novisandia: Confirmed Kempton promise with 2-length win over Mister Generosity at
1 burston (3m hosp, good to act). 4b higher but one to consider
Commission Here: Prospects on 4th to Artadoin Lad at Warwick in Nov. Chasing since
and difficult to essess
Greyoost Boy: Improved effort when 19 lengths 3rd of 9 to Kingsmark at Kempton
(2m5) nov. act); but appears likely to need farither to make his mark
Lucky Master: Progressive sort who gave Supreme Day a good fight over 2m71 at
Falsenham last time, but looks an out-and-out stayer
Greytons Some improvement when 13 lengths 2nd of 7 to Perfect Fellow at Folkesione
last time (2m6) nov. heavy). Still plenty to find
King Paddy: Has not but on ½ length 2nd to Revolt at Wetherby lost Jan (2m4) nov.
heavy) and well below his best on reappearance
Ezansic Doing best work liste from 2th lower when 5 lengths 3rd to Stipmetic over C&D
last month and again when 9 lengths 3rd of 12 to North Tyne at Taunton (3m maiden,
good to soft). First-lene biliners could shappen his act
Demp Course: Possibilities on 12 lengths 4th to Windross at Warwick (2m3) nov, soft)
but disappointed behind Homms De Fer at Fontwell (2m2) nov, soft) latest. Could be
worth another chance on this tester ground

but deappointed behind Homme De Fer at Fontwell (2012) now, soft) latest. Could be worth another chance on this taster ground. Colonal Hooks First form when 22 lengths 2nd to Get The Point at Towcester (2m now, heavy). More improvement likely over this longer trip. Guard Of Honour: Signs of ability when 8th of 13 to Ali Gong at Cheltenham (2m1) now, good to soft), but probably needs more time hony Coaster: Only 2b better with Ezanek for 23 lengths on Teunton 3m running behind North Tyne lest time. Looks up against it. Brogantier: Showing only little sign of improvement and likely to struggle on evidence of tatest 50 lengths 8th of 25 to Door To Door over C&D last time. Listophe after beating Oriental Style 21/1 lengths at Exetter last time (2m1) hosp, heavy) and held by Newby End on earlier Towcester form.

NERDICT: A rightmare finish for purishs with a host of possibilities including Pelsa-mon. Whitsting Rutius, Nortandio, Greyton, Esterak and Demp Course. It might, however, be worth taking a chance on COLONEL HOOK, who showed considerable improvement at lowester on his first run for David Nicholson and, on breading, is en-titled to come on a good deal again for the longer tro. His stable has good lines to the traver at this level.



James

wary of swing

success

BY MARK GARRIOD

laid low with hepatitis.

which I felt was a good way to

said Russell, who last year was

Farry had missed four half-

way cuts in a row but rounded

off his best day's work of the

year with three birdies in four

Hampshire 18-year-old Justin

Rose, who finished with 76 and

is in danger of an horrendous

14th successive missed cut as

a professional. Rose had an

eight on his card for the second

week running - his third shot

to the 521-yard 10th finished on

a cart path and because the

nearest point of relief was in a

bush be played it but took three

more shots to make the green. He probably now needs a 69 to

Seve Ballesteros was in trou-

hle as well with a 77, but his

winning a BMW sports car .

prepare for the new season."

THE RYDER CUP captain,

Mark James, continued to surprise himself yesterday by tak-ing a share of third place after

the first round of the Qatar

Masters in Doha. A five-under-

par 67 left the 45-year-old James only a stroke hehind the

leaders, Raymond Russell and

Marc Farry, and came just

three days after he finished

joint third in the Dubai Desert

form," said the Ilkley-based

golfer, whose 1998 season

ended with his arm in a sling

after he tore a shoulder mus-

cle during the Volvo Masters.

'I didn't practice until the mid-

dle of January but the swing

just seems to have clicked into

place. It's too easy at the mo-

ment and obviously it's going

Even if it does not, James

insists there is no way he will be a playing captain against the

Americans in Boston in Sep-

Lucky to be out on the su-

perb Doha course before the

wind picked up, James' third

shot was a 45-yard chip to the

long 10th which went in for an

eagle three. Five birdies were

chase for a 19th European Tour

title but his first since the 1997

Russell also had an eagle -

at the 319-yard 16th, where

players have to try to drive over

a huge limestone rock in front

of the green. The 26-year-old

Scot's effort carried the rock

only to finish in rough 60 feet

from the flag, but he chipped in and returned an inward half of

"I had a month in Australia,

Country Store 5.20 Auetaler

Spanish Open.

to follow, hut two bogeys cost

to disappear soon.

tember.

"I'm suspicious of this

in white

commentrainers

McGrath

TWO CENTURY partnerships involving Gary Kirsten took

playing partner Eduardo Romero had a day to remem-Lancaster Park yesterday. ber, holing his seven-iron tee Chasing 221 to win, South shot to the 161-yard 17th and Africa were reduced to 12 for 2 before Kirsten added 103 with Ian Woosnam, John Bicker-Jacques Kallis to rebuild the ton, Ross McFarlane and Paul innings and then an unbroken Lawrie are in the group on 68, 109 with the captain, Hansie

Kallis, who scored 100 in the

first match in Dunedin, con-

tinued his form in reaching 50

from 60 balls before falling Ibw

fought back from an opening bogey six to join James on five The defending champion, Andrew Coltart, fought on bravely to birdie the last three holes for a 71 while David 80 runs in his last 10 matches.

Howell, the runaway winner of last week's Dubai Desert Classic, came back to earth with a

South Africa to a seven-wicket victory over New Zealand in the second one-day international at

while the American Boh May Cronje, to win the match. a wretched run that produced

By STEPHEN JACKSON in Christchurch

New Zealand 220-9 South Africa 224-3

Apart from the win, which levelled the six-match series at 1-1, Kirsten's innings signalled a return to form for the onceprolific opener after enduring

was brutal in his treatment of the spinner Daniel Vettori.

Cronje reached his 34th limited-overs half-century from 45 balls with three sixes and six fours, but the day belonged to Kirsten who reached 50 from 60 balls before hitting the winning runs with his 10th boundary, fin-

South Africa win by 7 wkts

ishing unbeaten on 81. Cronje was 74 not out when the match was won with seven overs left. Earlier, Dion Nash's decision to bat first backfired when his side slipped to 29 for 3 inside seven overs before the innings

Shaun Pollock in the gully before two immaculate Pollock off-cutters had both Matt Home (5) and Craig McMillan (6) caught by

Daryll Cullinan at slip. Twose and Adam Parore repaired much of the early damage with a stand of 102 from 147 balls for the fourth wicket before Parore cut Pollock to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher, Twose was bogged down after the exit of Nash for six, but New Zealand were carried to a potentially competitive total by Chris Har-

ris' 45 not out, which included three sixes and two fours. The third one-day international is at Eden Gardens, Auck-

land, on Saturday. ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Oristchurch, NZ) New Zealand 220-9 (R Twose 78: Pol-lock 4-45), South Africa 224-3 (I Kallis 53, H Cronje 74ao G Kirsten B no.), South Africa was held together by a stubborn

Steve Waugh (right) takes a timecheck with Shane Warne as the Australian tour party prepare to depart for the West Indies yesterday Allsport Kirsten leads run charge Shoaib traps four as had Nathan Astle (1) caught by Pakistan fight back

THE PAKISTAN pace bowlers Pakistan 185 & 26-1 ripped through the Indian middle order yesterday, restricting their first-innings score to 223 all out after the hosts had looked set to build a formidable lead on the second day of the first match of the three-nation Asian Test championship in Calcutta. At the close Pakistan, who scored 185 in their first innings, were 26 for

still 12 runs behind. Shoaib Akhtar, who replaced Waqar Younis, ended with 4 for 71 while Wasim Akram had figures of 3 for 65, though the pair between them conceded 28 no-balls. Sadagopan Ramesh, with 79, helped India produce a first-innings lead of 38 despite the Pakistani fightback which

claimed the last eight wickets

India, who began the day on 26 for 1. lost only the wicket of the nightwatchman Anil Kumhle in the first session and by mid-afternoon were strongly placed at 147 for 2. But Shoaib uprooted Rahul Dravid's legstump with a yorker and then meted out similar treatment to Sachin Tendulkar with his next delivery, and India never re-

gained the momentum. Both teams took five bonus points for their performance in the first innings - four bowling points for taking all the wickets within 100 overs and one batting

point for scoring between 150 and 224 runs.

makes Lara the target

BY BRIAN MCKENNA in Sydney

GLENN MCGRATH, Australia's leading fast bowler, plans to target Brian Lara as a means of further destabilising the West Indies in the forthcoming Test

The under-fire West Indian captain is anxious to lift his side after the disastrous 5-0 series whilewash in South Africa – but McGrath is aiming to inflict fur-

ther misery on Lara. "I try to target the best batsman in the I cam and or the captain," said McGrath, part of a 15-man louring party which left Sydney for the Caribbean yesterday. "If you can knock the captain over cheaply, then it puts a few negative thoughts into his head as well and it can have an effect on the rest of the leam. Brian Lara is still a key to their balting, so I'll be trying

to knock him over." McGrath has claimed the wicket of Lara seven times in nine Tests and is looking to increase his Test tally of 202 wickets at an average of 23.44. He successfully employed the same strategy in the recent Ashes series win, when he demoralised England's key batsman and former captain, Mike

McGrath added that the last lour to the West Indies in 1995 - when Australia won in the Caribbean for the first time since 1973 - was a turning point in his career, The efforts of Australia's most potent strike weapon will again be crucial if the tourists are to record successive series wins there, and their third straight series win over the once invincible West

However, the new Australian captain, Steve Waugh, warned that the West Indies would be tough to beat on their home pitches. "Whilst they didn't have a good tour of South Africa, they pride themselves on playing well in front of a home crowd." he said. "They will be wanting to put up a good show." The four-Test series starts at the begin-

TAUNTON HYPERION 2.10 liahabad 2.40 The Swan 3.15 ATAVISTIC

(nap) 3.45 Lizzya First 4.20 Pleasureland 4.50

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in a few places in home straight).

Flight-hand course. Run-in of 150yds.

Course its S of town on B3770. Taunton station 2m.
ADMISSION: Members \$11: Paddock \$5: Centre of Course \$5.
Accompanied under-16s tree. CAR PARK: Centre of course \$3: FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

| LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 43-217 (198%), P Hobbs 28-114
| CARNO, R Hodges 17-153 (111%), P Nicholls 10-89 (112%).
| LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 25-37 (1974), M A Fizzgerold 67-78 (215%), C Maude 15-65 (55%), N Williamson 12-53 (225%).
| FAVOURITES: (58-445 (38%))
| BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Keen Dancer (345), Churchtown Chance (450) 2.10 BLACKDDWN MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (Div I) £3,500 added 2m 1f

- 14 declared -BETTING: 7-4 fishabed, 9-4 C'Est étol Leurel, 7-1 Fosse Tail, 8-1 Bran-don Court, 10-1 Decoit, Jacobs, 18-1 Cage Aux Folias, 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT ILAHABAD has the best form despite being well-besten in both starts over hurdles and looks the likeliest winner in a race in which only a handful at most have a realistic chance. Jecdor 2.40 PORLOCK SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m 1f

FORM VERDICT IRISH SEA morts serious consideration. Winner of a smiler race last autumn, he rari up to his best when fifth in the race won by Coble at Ludlow lest month, and that form looks very solid with the third and fourth successful since.

3.15 HENLADE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 26,000 added 3m

An interesting race affords ATAVISTIC another good oppor-tunity This in-form novice jumped safely enough on his recent channel debut, one blunder excepted, and a similar round will you not good claims. 3.45 FEBRUARY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 3f 110yds

FORM VERDICT A more competitive event than at first glance – all four run-ners returning from a break go well when fresh – but L12ZYS FIRST remains a furly confident choice. Rod Milmen's late-developer won in good style here two weeks ago and, with the well-handicapped second having gone on to finish a clear second-best at Newbury, the form looks solid.

4.20 CHEDDAR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Cholety: AFaced measure task in Waleh National lest time. Won on third start last season (boat Miss Distan over 3m57 at Warwack) and could figure despite the big weight. Sounds Pyria: Nawbury and Cartisle winner last season on soft ground. Followed Nawbury and Cartisle winner last season on soft ground. Followed Nawbury 2nd to Moon Devil with pusied up effort in the Mandarin on same course. Hawailian Youth: 28 higher for 2nd to Zeggy Lane at Untreeter (3m) 68 put for 20-langth bearing by Indian Fluin at Plumpton and neck 2nd to Malawi at Huntingdon (2m) last time. Herhomer: Beams when left two cut in Boots Maddaris race at Stratiford prior to lased very close 3rd to Luke Warm and Puritiers Bay at Warwick (2m4). Won nov classe at Warwick last season and leading chance today. Normarange: Followed up Plumpton win with Windsor success from Dubelle last season (both over 2m5). Same handcap mark today and not highly their on reappearance over trip likely to suit Phillatetic: Wincarion and Ludlow wirmer last season and only 2b higher for latest neck win from River Bay at Windsor (2m5). Today's sharp course will suit gled since Fortiwell novice win and unsetted in poor race won by Swarsea Gold on that course (3m2) last time.
Maurachase: his promised to co well in a stawno race such as

eca Gold, 12-1 Bonny, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

unsetted in poor race won by swareau cod on that course smart, lest time.

Maiuraches: Has promeed to go well in a staying race such as the, Well held when brought down times out in Full Of Cets' race at Bangor lest time but this is softer.

Elegant Des Cossess Moderate winning hurder and lound ground too testing on chasing debut in 3rd to Northern Saddler at Newton Abbot. Reised considerably in distance lodery.

Debt Of Homor: Prefere a leatien surface and 7th better with Printelle after beging this rivel at Lescester lest March. Ground too soft lest time when 7th to No Fiddling here. On a fair mark indians Run: Duel Plumpton winner over 2m5 lest month but well besten there test time by Regal Aura. Staming wornes over 3m Jeck Somot: Winning pointer not seen since a hunter chase 4th to Miss Milbrook at Hereford in May 1997. Possbifities Coolree: Without a win for two years and not the force of old Pleasureance Slow winning staying hurdier and only 5th in the poor race won by The Cockerton at Wincariton lest time.

Tom Pinch: Confidence booster at Leicester (beaten 26 lengths by Cetic Seeson) after talls at Unionster and Ludow. Hard to tancy on overall form VERDICT: A Jimmy FitzGerald-runner here has to be respected and Sounde Pyrne will at least find the opposition weaker after the Mandarin at Newbury. Debt Of Honor has fine claims being so well handicapped after bearing Philatelic last season. Philatelic will like this sharp course, but the choice is HERHORISE, who is up in distance after being beaten two short heads at Warwick.

4.50 CRANMDRE HANDICAP HURDLE (F) £3,500 added mares 3m 110yds

COUNTRY STORE is taken to confirm the good impression she made at this track on her first run for Martin Pipe Swannen Gold should also go well, along with Pipid Minid and Glevum. 5.20 BLACKDOWN MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (Div II) £3,500 added 2m 1f ALETALER (GER) (F189) M Poe 5 11 5 ... A P McCoy
CONGAD (KI) (F147) O O'Nei 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F FARCEUR DU MESMIL (51) (BF) K Morgan 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F FARCEUR DU MESMIL (51) (BF) K Morgan 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F FARCEUR DU MESMIL (51) (BF) K Morgan 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F FARCEUR DU MESMIL (51) (BF) K Morgan 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F FARCEUR DU MESMIL (51) (BF) K Morgan 6 11 5 ... V Statusry
2F PARCEUR (FR) (21) Mes V Williams 5 11 5 ... Statusry
2M NISTIC DU MEST (F121) K McAufille 5 11 5 ... V Marinton
2M NISTIC DU MEST (F121) K McAufille 5 11 5 ... J Front
2M MARSH MELLOW (F280) R Hodges 4 10 9 ... P Holloy
2 PRINCE DUNDEE (FR) (ID) J Herbite 4 10 9 ... Mr R Formatil (5)
2M BARY BURSIELES (26) T George 4 10 4 ... R Formatil
3PANISH EYES (F141) J Spearing 4 10 4 ... G Tommey
1MG: 94 Austales, 11-4 Groom's Gordon, 5-4 Party Romanica, 7-1
3MG: 94 Austales, 11-4 Groom's Gordon, 5-4 Party Romanica, 7-1

- 14 declared -BETTING: 9-4 Austries, 11-4 Groom's Cordon, 5-1 Party Romanos, 7-1 Little Hoart, 6-1 Faccour De Mesnit, 10-1 Prince Dundee, 20-1 others FDRM VERDICT With a host of interesting newcomen, the market should be monitored closely. AUETALER makes more appeal than fellow Cheltenhem entry Groom's Gordon; indeed the latters suspect stamine means Perty Romance may pose a bigger threat.

600-04 KALAR (14) (CD) D Chapman 10 6 2 J Familiog 7 8 -68655 DANCING JACK (7) (CD) J Endger 6 7 11 R Bristand (7) 6

It may pay to take a chance on HALF TONE, who won from the no. 9 draw here lest month. With the likes of Nifty Norman and Squire Corrie ensuring a strong pace, he may be able to sweep late as the pacesetters run out of steam.

FORM VERDICT

6 005-44 SHADY DEAL (19) M Usher 7 10 Nicota Whight (7) 5 - 5 Sociand -Minimum neight: 7st 10th. True handicap weight: Lady D'Abo 7st 8th. BETTING: 5-2 Burtheloment, 11-4 Indian Swinger, Pully NIBs, 7-2 Diamond

FORM VERDICT to 77 and complete his het-trick. He may have most to fear from Indian Swinger, who is also worth another shot at the trip and may have more scope than Diamond Geozer.

RACING RESULTS

Scoreboard, Digest, page 29 ning of March.

FOLKESTONE Gong: Chase - Good to Soft, Hurdles - Soft

1. ARCTIC FANCYW Merston 15-8

2. Doe Ryan's _____J Ryan 14-1 3. Tellion _____M A Fizgerald 26-1

2.00: (2m 1f 110yds novice hurdle)

3. Johnston's Art B Powell 3-1 Jt fav Also ran: 13-2 Henry Cando, 13-2 Nicely Relaxed 20-1 Eco Warrior, River Ommond Smokey Robol (4th), 25-1 Herbsahead (6th), Longstone Lad, 33-1 Branscombe (5th), Dashing Invader, Palatel View, Shah. Varal Edison, 50-1 Light Reflections.

16 ran. 16. 14. 5. 11. dist (K Balley, Upper Lambourn). Tota: £5.90; £2.10. £1.40. £1.50 DF: £10.50. CSF £1777 3.00. (2m 5/ novice chase)

11 ran. 2 3, 18, 17, 27., (P Webber, Banbury) Tota: £2030: £330, £210, £260 DF £25.0, CSF: £68.22 3.30: @m 4f 110yds handicap hurdie)

der (9th), 8-1 Topanga, 9-1 Chref Predator, 11-1 Come On Elish, Summer Flower, 12-1 Merilena, 14-1 Supreme Troglodyte, 16-1 Selow The Saft, 25-1 Exact, 33-1 Hardy Breeze (6th), 50-1 Greensde Chat 16 ran. 6, 10, 6, 4, 17 (Mrs Marrita Jones, .ambournt Tote: 52200; 6410, 5350, 5340, £2:00F: £1,080:10 CSF: £285.97 Treast:

Also ran: 11-4 jt tavs Edan Heights (4th). oofk (5th), 10-1 Rodenck Hudson (6th). 25-1 Tukano. 7 ran. 22, 10, 8, 3, dist. (J Tuck, Oximarton). Tate: 0530; 0170, 0230, DF: 01710, CSF: 4.30: Gm 2f hunter chase) 1. CHARMER'S WELLMr N Fehily 5-1 2. ChardenCol R Webb-Bowen 25-1

4.00: (2m 1f TOyds handicap hurdie)

HOT 'N SAUCYR Bellamy 9-1
 Shepherds RestChris Webb 8-1

up), 3-1 Mr Invader (4th), 7-2 Springlam Rath 6 ran. 7, 8.2% (Gary Brown, Upper Lumbourn) Tote: £6.80; £2.10, £6.60. DF: £2730. 6.00: (2m 1f 110yds nh flat) 1. DROMDORAN Osbo

3. Sheer Ability_Miss F-Jane Hatfield 18-1 Aleo ran: 5-2 lay Titus Andronicus (pu9ed

9 ran. 9, 1, 1/4, 7, 6 (P Webber, Banbury) Tota: £210. £110. £280. £360. DF: £750. CSF: £13.46. NR: Noah. Placepot: £1,669.80. Quadpot: £31730. Place 6: £4666.61 Place 5: £1682.55.

MUSSELBURGH Going: Good to Firm (Firm in places)

4, 5 (F Murphy, Middleham) Tota: £160, £100 £230, £1540, DF: £230, CSF: £331, 2.20: 1. STONESBY (J Callaghan) 7-1, 2. Zahid 9-2; 3. Charriwood Jack 13-2 6 ran. Zehid 9-2; 3. Charravood Jack 13-2 6 ren. 15-8 fav Russel (4th) 1%, 1% (G Moore, Mid-dehern) Tote: £680; £170. £10. £260. OF £180. ČSF. £2816 Tricust £138.58 NR Up For Ransome. 2.50: 1. DORANS WAV (N Harnity) 7-2, 2. Ooh Ah Cantona 20-1; 3. Bk O Magic 5-1 11 ran. 5-2 tov Bornard Seven (4th) 4. ...

1.50: 1. ALBRIGHTON (A Magure) 4-6 fav;

2. Master Tern 9-2; 3. Simiet 100-1 14 ran.

(G Moore, Middlehorn), Total: \$510; \$10, \$160.

\$2.30. DF. \$42.50 CSF. \$65.84 Theast 0318.22. 3.20: 1. GALE FORCE (6 Storey) 11-4 lav. 3.20: 1. GALE FORCE (8 Storey) 11-4 fav, 2. Salem Beach 7-2; 3. Denbys Gorse 4-1 8 ran. 6, 4 (P Beaumont, Brandsby) Total: C280; C170, C130 C150 DF C730 CSF C185 Trocast C3331 3.50: 1. CMARLIE BANKER (A Maguret 11-4 fav; 2. Shardante 3-1; 3. Golden Thurderboth 5-1 10 ran. 2 %; (R Burke, Wanlage) Total: C300, C200 C150 C170 DF, C500 CSF C992 Trocast C3427 4.20: 1. COOLE ARREY (Mr M Bradburne)

4.20: 1. COOLE ABBEY (Mr M Bractourne) 4.20: 1. COOLE ABSET | Mm M STADDURGE 11:10 for; 2. Joint Account 6-1.3. Satin Lover 4-1. 10 ran. 2.5. | Mrs. Clare Noore Morpeth) Total Clare, Clare, Clare, Clare, DF. 820. CSF. F926. 4.50: 1. PLENTY COURAGE (6 Storey) 6-1. 2. Qualitate Survivor 6-1; 3. Blue Moon 10-11 fav 10 mm. 1, 7. (F Storov, Carlstot Tote: \$1290; \$2.70, \$3.50, \$1.00 DF \$238.50 CSF

C5888 NR: Handsome Henry Regal Island. Placepot: C950 Quadpot: C360 Place 6: \$1308. Place 5: \$1002. WOLVERHAMPTON

Going: Standard 2.10: 1. ABBOLUTE MAJORITY IJ F 2.10: 1. ABBOLUTE MACORITY () Spencer 13-2, 2. My Little Man 33-1, 3. Port Meadow 3-1, 10 ran, 11-8 to Mosquero (5th), 8 / (8 Curley) Tote: 03-30, 12-50 54-20, 12-30 DF, C4-60, CSF, C15-66 2-40: 1, MANILENO (8 Prico) Eversitav: 2. Albemine 14-1, 3. Prince Danzig 100-30. 8 ran, 5, 1 % (Miss S Witton), Tota: £200: £120 3.10: 1. ITALIAN SYMPHONY (C Cogan) 5-2 fav; 2. Redoustable 14-1; 3. Addight Boy 8-1 11 ran. %. 11.. (P Evant) Tole: 1360; 2120, 2370, 2560 DF E330D CSF £43.87 Tricast: £253.32 Trifecta: £993.60 3.49: 1. TROJAN OIRL (T G McLaughin) 11-8 fax: 2. As-Youknownothing 5-1: 3. Avendale Ghi 7-1 6 ran. 1% 1% (N

Littmoden), Tota: 5210, 5110, 5560 DF 51240

4.10; 1. LOUGHANLEA (F Norton) 3-1; 2.

Just For You Jane 5-4 fav; 3. Legal Venture 7-1 8 ran. 16, 7. (D Nichols), Total \$450.

CTIQ CTIQ C220 DF C600 CSF, C752 4.40: 1. COPPER SHELL (P Doe) 11-6 tay:

CSF: £9.21

2. Nikita's Star 11-4; 3. Opera Built 7-1 8 ran. 1 % sh-hd (Mrs L Jewell). Tota: £240: £140, £180, £160 DF: £350, £55. £522. Tricast: £1888 Jackpot: £569120 Piacepot: £-870 Cuadpot: £380

Place 6: \$22.36 Place 5: \$531

ETHE INDEPENDENT **RACING SERVICES** 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS \$ANDOWN 971 981 TAUNTON 972 982 LINGFIELD 973 983 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

LINGFIELD

2.00 Java Shrine 2.30 Thats Life 3.05 Nany's Affair 3.35 Shanghal Lif 4.10 Half Tone 4.40 Polly Mills

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best up to fin, especially for 6t.

Equitrack surface; left-hand, sharp uncludating course.

Course is SE of flown on B2028, Lingfield station (served by Course is SE of flown on B2028, Lingfield station (served by Course, Course, ADMISSION: One enclosure 210, Lingfield station (served by Lingfield station (served by Lingfield station) on enclosure 210, Landon Victorial and Experience 210, Leaving Trainings (Course), M. Johnston 48-280 (171%), G. (18%), R. Harmon 49-377 (13%), M. Johnston 48-280 (171%), G. (18%), R. Harmon 49-377 (13%), M. Johnston 48-280 (171%), G. (18%), R. Cochrane 17-322 (162%), S. Sanders 85-583 (115%), R. Cochrane 17-322 (162%).

GOING: Standard. STALLS: hade except 51 - outside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low best up to 1m, especially for 81.

GOING: Standard.

57-352 (162%)
FAVOURITES: 735-2188 (336%)
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 2.00 BARNABY RUDGE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £2,750 added 1m 4f | 3250-3 OPERA BUFF (1) (CD) G Kelevity 8 8 7 ... P Fredericks (S) 1
| 3-116 JAVA SHRINE (USA) (16) (C) A Red 8 9 1 ... R Havist 5 8
| 00-04 ALDAR (20) (D) Mr. S Lemma 8 8 1 ... C Teague (3) 5
| 48003 DELIJA (16) J Hes 5 6 10 ... R Bridard (7) 3
| 0000 AS-IS (187) (CD) J Pridger 5 8 7 ... R Bridard (7) 3
| MODESTY HALL M Kertle 4 8 5 ... T Spraine 2 - 6 declared BETTING: overas Java Strine, 5-4 Opera Buff, 10-1 Deliue, 25-1 Ajdar, 33-

FORM YERDICT JAVA SHRINE is probably best at 1m2, but he staming should not be over-taxed in this small field and he is taken to bounce back to form after a below-par showing here last time.

00-550 CAMEO (14) M Charmon 497 _____P Cleary (7) 5 348545 FRIENDLY SPANE (5) (C) (D) G Kelloway 997 _____ BETTING: 5-2 Pageboy, Theis Life, 11-4 Friendly Brave, 11-2 Landican Lane, 12-1 Carneo, 25-1 Superino FORM VERDICT

Prisodily Brave will appreciate this drop back to Sf and into selling company, but THATS LIFE has to be preferred at the weights. Thats Life is rated 20th superior to Gay Kelleway horse in current handicaps and, on level terms here, must be the pick. 3.05 BOOK A BOX FOR THE SUMMER MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,500 added 7f

FORM VERDICT NANY'S AFFAIR ran green early on here test month and Thomas Henry was clear by the time the penny dropped. She should know what is required this time, and is taken to score from Love Opera and Wild Thing. 2.30 BLEAK HOUSE SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) 22,500 added of

3.35 DAVID COPPERFIELD HANDICAP (E) 54,250 added fillies & mares 1m 2f 53400- BIPD OF PREY (130) A Newcombe 4 T00 ______ J Wassvar 3
52200- WINGS AWARDED (111) M Chemon 4 B 13 ____ D Mason (7) 1
05-01 SHANGHAN LE (6) (CD) M F-Godley 7 B 18 (set) ___ F Norton 5
00/00- CHAYQUEE'S ARIENA (173) A Newcombe 4 6 T1 ___ doubtful 7
405-0 ROSSE JACUES T(2) N Lismoder 4 B 9 ____ T 6 McLaughtin 4
0-0520- CNBANE (17) (BT) Mcs S Lamymin 5 6 4 ______ J Cultum 2
00534- WILD NETTLE (2) J Fox 5 7 3 _______ Declar_O'Sban 6

- 7 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Stategini I.I. (1-4 Wild Notile, 7-2 Oxforce, 9-2 Rools Jeques, 5-1 Wings Awarded, 50-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Shanghai Lil is elmost certainty best at Invet and looks worth opposing over this shorter trip. QXBANE could be the one to best het. She can second in mich landicaps at Pontetract and Paddar lest autum, and though expensive to follow over recent years, she looks worth one more chance. 4.10 COME AND PLAY A ROUND AT LINGHELD HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$3,500 added 5f

00R/00 LADY D'ABO (17) Mrs S Lamytran 4 7 to. . C Teague (3) 4 V - 9 declared -Minutum weight: 7st 10b. True handicap weight: Lady O'Abo 7st 3b. BETTING: 100-30 Half Toos, 7-2 Sotonian, 9-2 Squire Comis, 8-1 Kirty Norman, 8-1 Kalar, 9-1 Dancing Jack, 18-1 Aljez, Dande Times. 25-1 Lady

4.40 NICHOLAS NICKLEBY HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,250 added 3YO 7f

Geszer, 12-1 Shariv Deal. The well-regarded BARTHOLOMEW can handle the step up



Steffen Iversen, the scorer of the goal against Wimbledon which booked Spurs' Worthington Cup final place, is carried off the Selhurst Park pitch on Tuesday by happy fans

Slick Spurs ahead of schedule

HIS NICKNAMES have included BY NEIL SILVER. "Stroller" and "Gaddafi" - hut the Tottenham players could be forgiven if they start calling George Graham "Aladdin" now that some of his cup magic is rubhing off on them.

Graham has led Tottenham to the League Cup final after less than four months in charge at White Hart Lane - just as he did to Arsenal in his first season at Highbury. If the manager who collects silverware like a cat hurglar can now add the Worthington Cup to his already impressive CV, his players may start to wonder if Graham really does have a magic lamp in his trophy cabinet.

charge at Highbury - and now he may emulate that feat with Spurs just six months after returning to north London from Leeds, after Tuesday's semifinal aggregate victory over

Graham said: "This competition has been good for me personally. I work hard at my job at every club I manage and I think I've done reasonably well. I hope it will continue here."

Considering his past achievements - six major trophies in eight years at Arsenal - the Worthington Cup may still seem like small beer, hut

date is just the beginning of his plans for the club.

"I have to admit this has come quicker than I expected," be said. "I thought it would take a year to 18 months to inject my principles and character into the club, and I still think there is a lot of work to do.

"But this is good for the club and good for the fans. The supporters needed it hadly and I'm pleased for them as much as anybody. This is a big club with good traditions. We are going to Wembley, and every-

body is absolutely delighted. Before the game at Wimbledon I said to my team that there are too many outstanding Twelve years ago he took Ar- the 54-year-old Scot has hard- players here who have never us well organised and working ficult to score against, and have to get to another. It is a great ourselves up again for the last refused to select him because senal to Littlewoods Cup sucly started his job of rebuilding been to Wembley with their as a team. There is a lot of concess in his first season in Tottenham, and this Wembley club side and that they should fidence here now and we don't their last nine matches.

put that right. There is a lot of give goals away easily. Some quality at Tottenham, but it has been lying dormant."

Les Ferdinand, whose powerful performance helped Spurs graft a 1-0 win over Wimbledon in the second leg of the semi-final, is delighted that Graham has led his team to the brink of more glory.

"George has come in and made a lot of difference," the England striker said. "Someone said to me that George has been to eight Wembley finals and now that magic has rubbed off on Spurs a little bit.

"You look at George and his past record with clubs, and tenham have tightened up then you look at how he has got

Ferdinand added: "Since he people will say this is only the came, George has been saying Worthington Cup but there is that we had been under-achieving and so he is delighted with still a Uefa Cup place up for grahs and we are delighted to be at Wembley. You saw the way the way we have responded to him and that we are not leak-

they have wanted this for years. places, and that is what you need at a club like Spurs. It "The players want it too. After last year's disappointing season we were determined is probably why we have made collectively, and as individuals, it to the final." to do something about it."

the fans came on to the pitch at

the end of last night's game.

They were saying to me that

The 32-year-old added: "I Perhaps the higgest change need some medals to have under Graham - not surprissomething to show for my time in football. We are also going ingly - has been the way Totwell in the FA Cup and now we defensively. They are now difhave got to one final we want conceded just three goals in incentive and a great habit to third of the season and finish on of doubts about the standard of

"If you look throughout the team there is competition for

The Wimbledon striker Efan Ekoku said: "We've just got to bounce back, simple as that. We can still make it into Europe by finishing in the top six in the Premier League.

Obviously it hurts, Losing to Chelsea in the FA Cup semifinal just a few weeks after the Leicester defeat two years ago was very painful, but this feels keeps you on your toes, and that just as bad.

"At this club, though, we are famous for our resilience and you can bet your life the players and Joe [Kinnear] will come up smiling again. There's not much to say at the moment.

unlucky. The only way is to lift

Shearer's Newcastle future

has been a popular topic of

Niemi wants to leave Rangers

THE RANGERS outcast Antti Niemi yesterday declared his intention to leave the Ibrox cluh to protect his position as first choice for his country, Fin-

After starting the season in the first team for the four games, the 26-year-old goalkeeper initially lost his place to the French international Lionel Charbonnier in mid-August. The f1.5m arrival from Auxerre excelled until the Uefa Cup second round home leg with Boyer Leverkusen, when he was taken off with serious knee ligament damage.

Niemi replaced him on the night and remained in goal until Christmas, when the Rangers manager, Dick Advocaat, sealed the transfer of the German international Stefan Klos from Borussia Dortmund.

Klos has retained his place ever since and yesterday Niemi, whose agent has already made clear his player's unhappiness, spoke personally for the first time about his desire to move on. He said: "It looks like my future will be away from Ibrox. I will have to consider any offer.

'At the moment I'm not getting enough matches. You can get away with not playing regularly for a while but, sooner or later, it will show in your game. "I'm concerned that my

form could suffer if I don't get regular first team action - and that could threaten my Finland place."

Niemi is still part of the Finnish set-up, starting their most recent international against Poland last week, but long-term he feeis his career might better develop elsewhere, He added: "I felt I did OK in the matches I have played this season, but I can understand the manager's decision to choose Stefan.

"He's a very good keeper and a European Cup winner, but I must think about my future because right now international games are my only chance to show what I can do."

Ironically, Klos, Rangers' first-choice keeper, has lost his place in the German international fold since his switch to We can't keep saying we are Ibrox from Dortmund. The German coach, Erich Ribbeck, has play in Scotland.

Klos said: "Rangers are a big club, they beat Bayer Leverkusen, who are a top Bundesliga team, so why should I not play for Germany if I'm here

"I was disappointed to be left out and to hear the coach say he cannot see me because Scottish football is not shown on German television.

"I think that is wrong because he could easily fly over and see me, and Jörg Albertz. I want to play for Germany and don't see why it is such a problem me being in Scotland."

Meanwhile, Advocaat and the Rangers chairman, David Murray, have travelled to Liverpool to check out the Anfield

club's training facilities. Murray is ready to invest in a state-of-the-art training centre, with around £7m set aside to fund the project, but first he plans to examine existing fa-

cilities around Europe. Advocaat said: "I have some ideas from Holland, but the most important thing is that we are clear about what we want to do because it's an expensive project which we want for next

The Argentina Under-21 goalkeeper Albano Bizarri will finally arrive in the Spanish capital this weekend to join Real Madrid, club officials said yesterday. Bizarri was signed from the Argentinian club, Real Avellanda, in January during the Spanish mid-season transfer window, but had been given permission to stay in his native country until now.

Real reassure McManaman

told by Real Madrid that his big cial problems at the Bernabeu. money move to Spain is safe, despite financial reports that the club are £130m in deht.

and Touche ran a financial forecast on the European Cup holders, casting doubts over the viability of the Liverpool midfielder's reported £60,000-a-

There are also major doubts over the future of the Real coach, Guus Hiddink, after he received the dreaded vote of confidence this week following a 3-0 defeat hy bitter rivals Barcelona.

It was thought that a change of leadership and the growing 3in defender has been snapped financial crisis at the club could disrupt McManaman's move, announced earlier this month. But the player's advisers say they have talked to Real Madrid officials and been assured that the move is not in douht. McManaman's agent, Julian Henry, says that Real's chair-

changed our position, and Steve will he joining Real Madrid Financial analysts Deloitte next season. We've heard the reports hut we are assured there are no concerns for his future. Steve is really looking forward to the new challenge. He'll be playing for a fantastic Sanz also maintains that

McManaman will be joining

Real whoever is coach. The Liverpool manager, Gérard Houllier, has continued his team huilding for the future by signing the 18-year-old French youngster Djimi Traore. The 6ft. up from the Second Division club Laval and is a member of France's Under-18 side that Houllier once coached. He cost £550,000 and is expected to arrive at Anfield on Monday after his international clearance

has been acquired. Traore is a player of great potential, and I know him well.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

STEVE McMANAMAN has been sured him there are no finan- He is a player for the future of so Carragher will not know his Henry said: "We haven't row and for the years after

that," Houllier said. Traore is the third young central defender signed by Houllier in recent weeks. He has snapped up the Nigerian international Rigobert Song for £2.7m as well as Norwegian teenager Frode Kippe for £700,000. There was strong competition from Milan Lazio. Parma and Paris St-Germain for Traore's signature.

The Football Association has confirmed they have received Liverpool's faxed appeal against Jamie Carragher's sending-off at Charlton on Saturday. A spokesman said: "We are now waiting for the video to reach us, and then the disciplinary department will decide whether to ask the referee Mike Reed to have a look at the video himself and to ask whether he wants to change his

Reed is unlikely to receive the video before the weekend-

Liverpool, a player for tomor- fate until early next week. The Marseilles coach, Rol-

land Courbis, yesterday pledged his future to the club. Despite having said in 1997 he wanted to stay at Marseilles for only a year, Courbis said: "It's my second season here and I'm pretty sure I'll be here for a while ... at least five years. I changed my mind. I have to live up to my reputation - if Courhis doesn't change his mind he would not be Courbis any-

A run of poor results since cluding a shock 1-0 defeat at has not given up on his dreams Toulouse last Sunday - has of hringing the glory days back dented Marseilles ooce- to the club. supreme confidence and placed a question mark over their ability to win the French title. They have now lost two of their last three league matches including a 4-1 thumping at rivals

Bordeaux two weeks ago. But Courbis insisted: "We are going to be champions whatever the one soon."

Shearer again pledges his future to Newcastle

NEWCASTLE STRIKER Alan for the Durham cricketer John Shearer is ready to commit his long-term future to his hometown club as he steps up the

hunt for silverware. The 28-year-old England captain reaffirmed his commitment to Newcastle after ignoring overtures from Manchester United Barcelona Juventus and Internazionale.

And although he believes there is still plenty of work to the French winter hreak - in- be done at St James' Park, he

"I still helieve this club can win things," he said. "I've still got two years left on my current contract and it could take that long before we win something. I expect to see out that contract and I'm sure someone at the club will open talks on a new

Morris, Shearer added: "Tve turned down Barcelona, Inter. Juventus and Manchester United to play here. I hope everyone already knows how much it means to me to play for Newcastle United."

Shearer's assurances will come as a boost to both the club's supporters and directors. Reports at the weekend hinted at a lucrative new deal with claims that an offer of the manager's job at a future date could be included.

Shearer remains Newcastle's higgest asset, and despite suggestions that he is yet to return to his best since the ankle injury which ruined his 1997-98 season, he is confident that he is as sharp as ever He went into last night's Premiership clash with Coventry City having scored 11 goals during the cur-

debate for the best part of a year, with his obvious frustration at his lack of scoring opportunities during the darker days of Kenny Dalglish's reign tempting potential buyers to test the water. But whatever he may have

thought privately, he has repeatedly denied rumours of a move, never more strongly than in the release of his latest statement. Shearer joined United for a

record £15m in July 1996 as Kevin Keegan broke the bank to add the final piece to his jig-

His partnership with Les Ferdinand was a resounding success, Shearer plundering 28 goals in 40 games before shattering his ankle in a freak pre-season accident at Goodison Park a year later.

Porto anger after cup defeat

YESTERDAY PONTINS LEAGUE Second Division: Notes County 3 Blackpool 1. Third Di-vision: Wigan 2 Carlisle 0; Bury 1 (Dester Seld 0; Darlington 3 Chester 2. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION Pars Division: Cambridge 1 Queen's Park Rungers 2; Gillingham 0 Arsenal 2; Bournemouth 1 Watford 1.

TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS

Worthington Cup Semi-final second log: Wimbledon O Tottenham 1 (Tottenworthington Cup Semi-Haaf second leg: Wimbledon O Totrenham / (Totren-ham wim 1-0 on aggregate). Nationalide League First Division: Norwich O Barnsley O: Watford 1 Huddersfield 1. Second Division: Wigan 3 Notts Coun-ty O. Third Division: Darlington O Hull City 1: Swansea 2 Brentford 1. Nationalide Conferences Southport O Hereford O. Melling O. Euchten 1. Vend O. Message (1) News ty O. Third Division: Darlington 9 Hull
City 1: Swansea 2 Brentford 1. Nationwide Conferences Southport 0 Hereford 0; Welling 0 Rushden 1; Yeovil 0 Woking 1. Auto Windscreens Shield Morthera Section semi-final: Lincoin City 1
Wresham 2 (act; Wesham win on golder gool rule) Southern Section Semifinals: Millwall 1 Gillingham 0 (act;
Millwall of Conference of Co

1; Molesey O Berkhamsted 3, Second Division: Abingdon Town 1 Banstead 2; Bedford Town 2 Edgware 1; Leighton 3 Witham 2: Baoting & Mitcham 1 Bracknell 1: Herritord 3 Barking 2, Third Division: Camberley 3 Southall 3; Dorking 2 Wingate & Finchley 1; East Thurock 1 Corinthan Casuals 0; Egham 0 Aveley 1; Epsom & Ewell 4 Kingsbury 0, Isthinala League Cup third round: Sutton Utd 2 Basingstoke 0; Unbridge 1 Harrow Borough 0, Pumas Cup second round: Hendon 2 Heybridge Swifts 1. Dr. Marcens League Premier Division: Bath City 3 Salisbury 5; Weymouth 1 Crawley 3, Midland Division; Blakenall 3 Redditch 3, Southern Division: Bath City 3 Salisbury 5; Weymouth 1 Crawley 3, Midland Division; Blakenall 3 Redditch 3, Southern Division: Crencester 3 Newport (IoW) 0; Havant & Waterlooville 2 Fleet 0; Witney 0 Darrford 1. League Cup second round: Spepised Dynamo 4 Baldock 2, Second-round replay: Tamworth 1 Bedworth 5. Tisird round: Rothwell 1 Boston Utd 3, Fourth round: Bashley 0 Dorchester 3, Uniffond League Premier Division: Postponed: Whitty Town v Guiseley, Challenge Cup third-round replay: Accington Stanley 2 Chorley 0, Winstonlead Ment League Premier Division: Erith Town 0 Crockenhill 3; Lordswood 2 Hythe 2; Ramsgare 1 Whitstoole 1; Kunbridge Wells 0 Slade Green 5; Thamesmead 2 Herne Bay 1. Postponed: Beckenham v Chatham. Screenfla Direce League Premier Division: Beckenham v Chatham. Screenfla Direce League Premier Division: Brislington 1 Melksham 1; Odd Down I Paulton 1; Therton 4 Barnstaple 0, Jewson Eastern League Premier Ovision: Golfmore 2; Brislington 1 Melksham 1; Odd Down I Paulton 1; Therton 4 Barnstaple 0, Jewson Eastern League Premier Ovision: Golfmore 2; Unifet Sossen League Premier Ovision: Eastern League Premier Division: Eastern

bourne Urd I Eastbourne Town 1. North Western Trains League First Division: Atherton LR 0 St Helers 1. League Cup third-round replay: Newcastle Town 2 Glossop 1. Ploudit: Trophy second round: Postponed: Atherton Collieries v Presct Cables. Third round: Rossendale 3 Darwen 1. Semi-final first leg: Postponed: Klosgrove v Curzon Ashton. Northern Counties East League Preutier Division: Stavetey 2 Carlotth 2. League Cop thard round: Buston 0 North Ferriby 4. Fourth round: Postponed: Ossett Albion v Denaby, Jewson Wessex League: BAT Sports 0 Brockenhurst 1: Fareham 0 Thatcham 0. League Cop quarter-final second Wessex League: BAT Sports O Brockenhurst: 1: Fareham O Thatcham O.
League Cup quarter-final second
leg: Bournemouth FC O Eastleigh 3;
Christchurch O Moneyfelds 4. Armott Insurance Northern League First Divisions Morpeth 2: Stockton 0; South
Sheids 2 Newcastle Blue Star 0; Tow Law
2 Shildon 3: West Auckland 1 Billingham
Synthonia 2: Harp League Legue of Ireland Cap Second-round replays Finn
Harps 1 Cork Gity 0. Coca-Cela brish
League Cup Preliminary round: Nenry
0 Larne 1, First round: Portadown 0
Chiftonville 2: Glentoran 8 Dungamon
Swifts 0. Poetins League Premier Division: Derby 2 Liverpool 2. First Division: Grimby 0 Cocarby 3. Poetpored:
Sheff Wednesday v Man City, Second Bivision: Strafford 2 Scarborough 0. The
11mes FA Youth Cup Fifth round:
Sheff Wednesday 1 Everton 1. Portaguese Cup Fifth round: Manismo 3
Salgueiros 2 (net); Ferense 0 Pevidem
1: Leca 0 Uniao Leira 1; Boavisto 2
Farense 1; Gondomar 3 Pocos Ferreira
4: Porto 0 Ibriense 1; Penafiel 0 Campomanorerse 1; Ro Timo O Talpas 1 (net);
Portimonerse 1 Moreirense 2: Esposende
2 Naval 0; Bera Mar 7 Portomosense 0;
Vitoria Setubal 2 Benfica 0.

THE CHAIRMAN of league the 2-0 defeat of Benfica, players," he said. The prospect champions and Portuguese Porto's main rival, at Setubal, of a hiennial World Cup was Cup holders, Porto, yesterday promised changes after their embarrassing home defeat in the fifth round against a minor

Torreense, a club from the Second Division B who have a part-time coach, beat Porto knocking the First Division leaders out of the competition.

The Porto coach, Fernando Santos, was jeered by fans at the Antas stadium, "A lot will have to change, especially attitude," the chib chairman, Jose Pinto da Costa, said. "We didn't expect this.

There's no acceptable justification for it," Da Costa told reporters. He said the players, who were criticised for being overconfident and sluggish, would have to change their attitude.

Sporting Lisbon, the country's third most powerful club, was knocked out in the previous roond, leaving northern club Boavista as favourites to take the title in June.

The Former German international Stefan Effenberg 1-0 in Tuesday's fifth round, said yesterday the European Championship could be abolished in favour of staging the World Cup every two years.

"In practice that would mean a break for one year, then the World Cup the following year," the 30-year-old Bayern Munich midfielder said. He felt that introducing a World Cup every two years would

suit spectators. "If you have to choose between the European Championship and the World Cup -ask the fans. They prefer the World The result was softened by Cup It's also more attractive for expected to meet four or five clubs.

raised last month by the Fifa president, Sepp Blatter, who caused an uproar with his controversial proposal.

A new Fifa committee involving legends such as Pele, Sir Bobby Charlton, Michel Platini and George Weah will hold its first meeting next week, the governing body said yesterday. The 20-member Fifa Football

Committee, launched in November will discuss "a number of issues central to the future" of the sport when it meets on Monday, Fifa said. Those include Blatter's hi-

ennial World Cup plan, the release of players for national teams, the congested international calendar and the activities of players' agents.

Blatter has said the panel,

times a year, will not discuss the laws of football but will concentrate on "the future welfare of the game in more general terms"

Competition regulations and youth development, as well as indoor, beach and women's football, will also be up for discussion Monday. The panel includes referees, coaches, administrators and players.

French pay-television comnany Canal Plus said it had signed a multimedia marketing agreement with five top French football clubs and sports advertising executive Jean-Claude Darmon.

First Division clubs Lyon, Monaco, Marseilles, Lens and Paris Saint German, Darmon and Canal Plus have created "Club Europe" which will use electronic commerce and television channels to promote the

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of cyclists, including Axel Merckx and former Giro d'Italia winner Ivan Gotti, questioned in Italy yesterday as part of a doping investigation at the

start of the Laigueglia

Trophy race.

RRIAN VINER

Kidnap Briton

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Anelka has claimed the Gunners are split into cliques, while also criticising the English game's attitude to foreigners. He said: "There are clans at Arsenal. I speak a bit of English now hut we never speak much with the English. We have nothing to do with each other. We play together, but afterwards we go our own way. There are 33-year-old, 37-year-old guys

FOOTBALL

BY TOMMY STANIFORTH

here and we have nothing to say to each other."

The temperamental former Paris St-Germain player, who scored both goals in France's 2-0 friendly win over England at Wembley last week, told the magazine RER: "Furthermore, they don't like the French here. Especially the press. They slate the French."

Anelka conceded that players like Eric Cantona and David Patrick Vieira. He gets red cards when he has done nothing. When an Englishman does something, the referee doesn't even whistle. They are tougher on the French in general."

In previous interviews, Anelka has made it clear he has found it hard to settle and has also criticised his Dutch teammates, Dennis Bergkamp, and Marc Overmars for not passing to him. He has been linked with Barcelona and Juventus, or a return to his former club Paris

Ginola had adapted well in St-Germain, but last week, to sign for the club he has supament injury. The former for matches, at £112 a time for Leeds United forward was in a set of 14. ed to leave the London side.

Celtic have beaten off competition from the entire English Premiership to sign Scotland's highly rated Under-15 captain, Mark Fotheringham. The talented midfielder

turned down a personal plea from the Manchester United manager, Alex Ferguson, after training with the Old Trafford club, as well as Newcastle, Chelsea and Everton. He received inquiries from all 20 Premiership sides - but chose

"Mark is probably the most sought after kid of his age in the country and we are delighted to get him," said Celtic's assistant coach, Eric Black. "He was offered terms by a number of big clubs down south, but we were able to persuade him to come to Celtic instead." Fotheringham is still at school in Dundee and will join Celtic full-time in December

The Middlesbrough striker Brian Deane has been ruled out for four weeks with a medial ligjured in a training match at the The administrator, Tom Bur-Riverside Stadium last Friday,

which had been arranged be-

cause Middleshrough had a

free weekend. Deane has

scored five goals since joining

Middlesbrough from Benfica

hard-up Portsmouth have can-

celled the weekly order of new

jockstraps for the players in an

attempt to save money. The

First Division club had previ-

ously ordered brand new pairs

ton, said: "I discovered we were having new jockstraps ordered for every game, so I said: Why not wash the damn things? "I asked someone why we were getting new ones in and

they said: 'Because we always Administrators running have done'. It was ridiculous. This is just another way to save money." Administrators have to save

£23,000 a week and players have had mobile phones and company cars taken away,

while complimentary matchday tickets for family and friends have been cut. On Tuesday the Portsmouth chairman, Les Partis, lost his £75,000 iob alnng with nine other office staff.

Middlesbrough's Premiership fixture with Chelsea at the Riverside Stadium has been rearranged for Wednesday 10 March (kick-off 7.45pm). The game was initially scheduled for Sunday 7 March, but the Stamford Bridge chih will be in FA Cup quarter final action against Manchester United on that af-

Goodison waits for Kenwright

BILL KENWRIGHT yesterday By JOHN NISBET moved to play down growing expectations that he has clinched a deal to take control of Ever-

The Goodison Park club's vice-chairman has been involved in top-level negotiations with the major shareholder, Peter Johnson. But Kenwright. a theatre impresario, said he has not yet officially tabled a bid for Johnson's 68 per-cent stake. or even part of it.

"I keep seeing people say that I have already lodged a bid and Peter is considering it. That is not true, I have not lodged a bid," Kenwright said. "I'm pretty close to lodging a bid and I'm in constant contact with Peter's advisors. But when that bid is lodged it is very important to me that it has a pretty good chance of success.

"And I'm not going to do that until I feel 95 per cent confident -you can never be 100 per-cent sure - that I am going to get the major shareholding."

It has been reported that Kenwright's consortium, which includes major financial institutions, has placed on the table a £50m offer for around half of Johnson's share, and that an answer is expected by the end of the week. Kenwright said: "We mustn't get involved any more in speculation and the wrong kind of communication, that is terrible for Everton.

"I'm a fan and, believe me, I do know fans are out there like little hirds in nests waiting for little drops of information. I know. I have been there with them for 53 years and I know exactly what it is like."

Kenwright added: "I feel bad, denying that I have made an offer, but the fans have got to know the truth. What I have platform from which I can get

Peter Johnson's shares, and look at the financial situation we are in and huild for the future.

"That is taking time and there are lots of people in-volved, not only on Peter's side but my side too. This will be the biggest-ever Premier League club takeover, whether I do it or whether someone else comes along and does it I know I have got to get it right.

"But the one thing I don't know is who else Peter Johnson is talking too. I have no idea whether there is anyone else out there. I read things about South African companies and Turkish companies, I don't know whether any of that is true. I have to just take my time and make my bid."

The Aston Villa goalkeeper, Mark Bosnich, is likely to make his comeback against Coventry City on 27 February - five months after injuring his shoulder against the Sky Blues at Highfield Road. Villa's manager, John Gregory, is also waiting to see if his central defender, Ugo Ehlogu, will need eye socket suffered in a clash. with Newcastle's Alan Shearer

Bosnich is stepping up his rehabilitation programme and the hig test will come within a week, when he attempts to dive for the first time on the troublesome shoulder which required an operation in December. "Mark is doing most of the things a goalkeeper does, like handling and collecting crosses, and everything is going along fine from that point of view." said Gregory. "But the test will come when he starts diving around and going down on the shoulder. Then we will been trying to do is to build a see if it is capable of standing up to that sort of pressure."



Chris Mullins (right), of the Indiana Pacers, tries to drive around the Miami Heat guard Rex Walters

Robinson's jump-shot lifts Bucks

GLENN ROBINSON'S 18-foot jump-shot with a 10th of a second remaining enabled Milwankee to come from behind to beat Philadelphia 93-92.

The 76ers led 92-89 on Harvey Grant's lay-up with 47 seconds remaining in Tuesday night's game before Tyrone Hill's rebound basket brought the Bucks within one. After Allen Iverson missed a driving lay-up with 19 seconds left. Robinson hit the game-winner from the left corner.

Terrell Brandon led Milwaukee with 15 points, while Iverson scored 23 points for Philadelphia, 17 in the second half.

In Cleveland, Shawn Kemp scored 18 points and Vitaly Potapenko had 16 to lead Cleveland to its third straight win, 90-78 over Orlando, Potapenko scored eight points in the first quarter as Cleveland jumped to a quick 14-2 lead and led by 15 points entering the second quarter

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Keith Van Horn scored a career-best 35 points and New Jersey pulled away from Detroit in the second half for a 97-82 victory. The win ended ing streak, while the Pistons suffered their fourth successive setback.

Allan Houston scored 20 points for the Knicks against the Raptors in New York to spoil Charles Oakley's return to Madison Square Garden with a 95-85 victory.

Oakley had 11 points, seven rebounds and five turnovers for the Raptors, who were led by rookie Vince Carter's 17 points.

In Indianapolis, PJ Brown scored a season-high 22 points and Alonzo Mourning added 19 as Miami won its third game in a row hy defeating Indiana 89-78. Indiana's Reggie Miller was held to 11 points on 4-of-9

BASKETBALL

shooting and was ejected after being called for two technical fools in the final quarter. The Pacers were led by Chris Mullin's 16 points. Steve Snuth scored 17 points

and Alan Henderson added 14 as Atlanta downed Chicago 83-67. Chicago got 27 points and 10 points from Toni Kukoc, but it wasn't enough to keep the Bulls from dropping to 1.5, their worst start since 1978-79. They have lost four successive games at home for the first time since 1993-94, in the days when Michael Jordan was off playing

In Houston, Hakeem Olajuwon had 19 points and 11 rebounds and led a key third-quarter charge as Houston ended Phoenix's nine-game winging streak with a 109-92 victory. Olajuwon got plenty of help from Scottie Pippen, who had 19 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists. Phoenix had six players in double figures, led by Tom Gughotta and Jason Kidd with 14 each.

A cocktail waitress who accused Dennis Rodman of grabprevious lawsuits against him in her own suit, a judge ruled on Tuesday. But the woman, Susan Patterson, did win a ruling that allows her to keep a claim of emotional distress in her lawsuit.

Patterson also accused Rodman of assault, battery, negligence and false imprisonment.

The former Chicago Bulls star, who appears close to signing with the Los Angeles Lakers, is accused of jamming a \$100 note down Patterson's blouse and grabbing her breast.

Patterson seeks general and punitive damages, which would be determined at trial. No date

Turner given six-game ban for tackle

RUGBY LEAGUE THE SHEFFIELD EAGLES for-

ward Darren Turner will miss the first month of Super League after being handed a ix-match ban. The hooker or econd-row forward received the hefty suspension, along with a £500 fine, for "highly dangerous action" during the Eagles' 16-6 Silk Cut Challenge Cup fourth-round defeat at Salford on Saturday. Turner was sent to the sin-

bin by the referee, John Connolly, for an off-the-ball challenge on the Salford full-back Gary Broadbent, who was upended as he tried to collect a high ball. He was subsequently charged with misconduct by the League's executive committee and referred to the game's disciplinary chiefs, who ruled that the player was guilty of "obstruction, not in the spirit of the game".

Turner, who has already served a one-match ban for a reckless high tackle on the Takefield stand-off Tony Kemp during a pre-season friendly, also faces the likelihood of further punishment from the League for allegedly making an offensive gesture to the crowd as he left the field

on Saturday. Super League has a new internet site. The address is www.superleague-europe.co.uk and includes a guide to the clubs, keeps supporters up to date with the latest news and has full-screen animation and

ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS

Dana Cervantes, the Spanish pole vaulter, has tested positive for the banned steroid nandrolone at the European Championships in Budapest in August.

INTERNATIONAL INDOOR MEETING (Radets): Bless 60ss: 1 M Greene (US) 6.45; 20 Alu (Higgeria) 6.59; 3 V Headerson (US) 5.61. 60ss bandlas: 1 D Ross (US) 7.43esc. 2 C Hasteline (US) 7.33: 3 B Narving (Need). 7.64. 400ss: 1 J T Gards (Sp) 48.30esc. 2 J Vallin (Mes) 48.32; 2 I Marreal (Sp) 48.30esc. 2 J Vallin (Mes) 48.32; 2 I Marreal (Sp) 59.31. 1,000ss: 1 R Parra (Sp) 2min 25.13esc. 2 P Esceso (Sp) 2.25.56; 3 I R Reyero (Sp) 2.25.50. Long (seys: 1 Y Lameta (Sp) B.27m; 2 E Molder (US) 8.17; 3 J Beckford (Jan) 81.3. Pole vasalt: 1 M Tareaco (Ros) 50s; 2 S Oric 2 V OBris; (SA) 5.60; 2 J Gards (Sp) 3.60; 2 G (Nigera) 7.10; 2 S Fynes (Ban) 7.12; 5 P Pendartes (Bu) 7.1; 60sn hardinas: 1 B Bulouec (Sloven) 7.82; 2 G Alcade (Nigera) 7.83; 2 O Shishigha (Kaz 7.87; 1.000ss: 1 A A Menendez (Sp) 2min 47.99sec; 2 N Fernandez (Sp) 2.48.10; 2 A Gords (Sp) 2.48.20. Triple (amp: 1 C Paredes (Sp) 13.81m; 2 C Castrejana (Sp) 13.75; 2 M Mayo (Sp) 12.21.

NBA: Milwaukee 93 Philadelphia 92; New Jer-sey 97 Detroit 82; Cleveland 90 Orlando 78; New York 95 Toronto 85; Marm 89 Indiana 78; Arismta 83 Chicago 67: Hooston 109 Phoemis 92; Seattle 71 Ulah 56: Sacramen-to 101 Boston 98; LA Lakers 116 Charlotte 88: Vancouver 93 LA Clippers 99 (second of). MEM'S EUROLLEAGUE Sacond preliminary resend: Group G: CSKA Moscow (Rus) 77 PAOK Salonika [Gr) 67.

CRICKET ASIAN TEST CHAMPIONS: (Calcutta; second day) Palasian won toss Pointen won toss

Parkes TAN — Piers benings 185 (Moin Ich. 70, J Shnath 5-46).

Sterney Sterne

SOUTH AFRICA

G Kirsten not out
L Klusener C Twose b Allott ...
D J Cubinan C Parcre b Allott ...
H Kallis How b Larsen ...
"W J Cronje not out
Extras (04 io1 w3 no1)

SPORTING DIGEST

CYCLING RUDA DEL. SOL Fourth stage [189.5km, Lescanda to Jam., So) 1 F Vanderthroucke (Bel) Cofides Str Obrino 150ec; 2 F Cancchiol (t) Costa Almeria + 25cc 9 R McCrism (Aus) Rabobank + 14: 4 E Zabel (Ger) Telefourn: 5 J Planckaert (Bel) Lotto; 6 G Hirdapie (US) US Postal ati spane time. Overall: 1: 1 Pascual Rodrigues (Sp) Keine 17th + 44min 33sec; 2 S Botero (Col) Natme +2: 3 S Blanco (Sp) Vitaliclo + Imin 18sec; 4 C Moter (Den) VMA +1:20; 5 Manceto; 6 S de Wolf (Bel) Cofids both s/t.

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL
FACABLING PREMINESHIP: Re-arranged fluctures Wed 10 Mars Middlesbrough V Cheisea (from 7 Mor).
TENNESHITS SCOTTISH CUP Fifth rounds Re-arranged flutures: Son 7 Mars Rangers V Fallish. News 8 Mars Greenock Morton v Celic (from 6 Mor).
NATIONNESHIP CONFIDENCE: Re-arranged flutures Sea 27 Febr Doncaster v Hereford (from 10 Apr).

GOLF

CATAR MASTERS (Doba) Loading firstround scores (GB or M tastess stated):
66 M Forry (Fr). R Russell 67 M James, B
May (US). 68 P Nyman (Swe). J Bickerton, I
Wossnam, R McFarlane, P Lawrie, 68 A Ceka (Ger), K Tornori (Japan). E Romero (Arg).
W Ritery (Aus). J Van de Velde (Fr). G Esans,
S Gallacher. 70 P Affleck, V Philips, P Price,
R Goosen (SA), MA Martin (Sp). S Rjeidsen
(Den). 71 P Harrington, C Hanel (Swe). M
Jonzon (Swe). W Bernstett. Zhang Lin-wei (Ch),
R Derison (Neth), M Tannicifft. P Eafles, A
Coltart, J Spence. S Field, Kang Wook-soon
(Mor). I Garbutt. G Orc. A Ralkt. 72 P Walten,
P Outrid (Swet). S Lura (Sp), D Howest. P-U
Johansson (Swe). D Cartes, I Garrido (Sp), M
McChenzie, R Chapman, R Claydon, J Cockes
(Arg), D Lee, M Moutand, G Brond Int. J Haeggman (Swe). D Robertson. P Broadburst, M
Gromberg (Swe). R Grazalez (Arg). S Timing
(Den), P McGinley, A Hancen (Den), J Rivero
(Sp), F Lindgren (Sine), F Tarnaud (Fr), M Roe,
R Green (Aus). GOLF

ICE HOCKEY

MOTOR RACING The Arrows Formula One team have confirmed that the Spanish driver Pedro Martinez de la Rosa has joined them for the forthcoming season.

RUGBY UNION RUGBY UNION

SCOTLAND A IV England A, Headingley,
Leeds, tomorrowil: S Lang [Edinburgh
Rebers); C Most Martinamyton, J Mayer (Edinburgh Rebers); R Enflason (Lordon Stortish). C Joiner (Leicestet); A Demakton
(Curric), G Serma (Edinburgh Rebers); G Grabasen (Riewcas); G Strauband, G Scott (Gissgow
Caledonians); M Procedinos (Edinburgh
Rebers); M Retrailfie (Northempron); S
Campbell (Gissgow Celecinamys); C Sizaber (Edinburgh Revers); S Ridd (Leeds, Capt);
I Sindals (Edinburgh Robers); Rephammansus
El McKlestole (Bourgoth-Malley); D Officer
(Hartequine), G Baserindge (Gissgow Caledonians),
C Hogg (Edinburgh Rebers); M Anderson
(Gissgow Caledonians), R Rossall (Edinburgh
Rebers), R Anderson
(Gissgow Caledonians), R Rossall (Edinburgh
Rebers), R Anderson vers), PSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Welsh Na-nal League First Dheblocc South Wales co 37 Moestey 29, Oath Match: Carriordy v 62 Crawshay's Welsh XV 34,

SNOOKER

SCOTTISH O'PEN (Aberdean) First round
(Eng trailean stated): A Hamkton bt Stomes
5-5: J Write bt L Waller (Wal) 5-2; J Parrout bt O'Fabow 5-2. K Broughton bt J Wartans (Tha) 5-2: J Higghts (Sco) bt L Griffin
5-3: M Wilkiams (Wal) bt P Lines (Eng) 5-4:
Sacond round: K Ocherry (In) bt M Campbell (Sco) 5-1: A McManus (Sco) bt W
Thome (Eng) 5-2: F O'Brien (ri) bt 1 O'rago
(Malta) 5-4: G Don (Sco) bt O Haru (Aus)
5-2: B Mongan (Eng) bt D Henry (Sco) 5-3:
J Higghts (Sco) bt S Pettman (Eng) 5-2: F
J Hendry (Sco) bt N Peerce (Eng) 5-2: C Small
(Sco) bt D Charle (Eng) 5-2: C Small
(Sco) bt D Charle (Eng) 5-1.

SWIMMING

(Den) 25.65; 2 D Carisson (Swe) 26.01; S0es Presstyle: 1 G Borges (Bra) 22.16; 2 C Pyder (LGS) 22.32; 2 S Turber (LGS) 22.42; 100 to breaststroke: 1 F Deturgingraere (Ber) 1:00.12; 2 Z Ju Y (D 1.01 46; 2 Y Williams (LGS) 52.97; 2 S Monhammad (LGS) 52.97; 2 S Monhammad (LGS) 53.05; 2 D Carisson (Swe) 55.55; 200 to breastyle: 1 F Pestron (LGS) 15.97; 2 M Rosolino (N) 1.48.35; 200 to breastyle: 1 F Pestron (LGS) 15.96; 1 S Sevier (LGP) 15.99; 2 Heloman 1:59, 11; 3 C Keller (Ger) 1:59.97; Westerd: 500 to breaststroke: 1 S Riegy (Au.) 31.34; 2 P Heyris (SA) 51.55; 2 L Wei (Dr) 31.84 100 to bedestroke: 1 C misterior (LGS) 1:51.04; 2 F Heyris (SA) 51.55; 2 L Wei (Dr) 31.84; 2 P Heyris (SA) 51.55; 2 L Wei (LGS) 31.84; 2 P Heyris (SA) 51.55; 2 L Wei (LGS) 2 S Wolfs (Ber) 1:02.11; 100 to breast (Ber) 1:01.04; 2 S Submyshim (Cari) 1:01.04; 2 S Noul (LGS) 2:05.57; 2 L Nichols (Cari) 55.14; 3 J Sjoberg (Swe) 55.22; 200 to breatty 1 S S Stou (Den) 2:09.90; 2 M Peddig (GS) 2:13.02; 400 to breattyle: 1 On Hus (Dr) 4:04.18; 2 C Pod (CR) 4:06.99; 2 C Smart (GS) 4:09.88; 400 to breattyle: 1 On Hus (Dr) 4:04.18; 2 C Pod (CR) 4:06.09; 2 C Smart (GS) 4:09.88; 4:47.06.

M Sifti (Rus) br A Corrects 1991 (-3 3-6 0-5); Y Kartenitov (Rus) br R Schrifter (Ser) 7-5
6-3. Second rower: D Hrbary (Slovel) br P
Wessels (Neth) 6-3 6-7 7-5; J Golmard (Fr)
Wessels (Neth) 6-3 6-7 7-5; J Golmard (Fr)
Wessels (Ser) 5-0 6-4; G Rovedski (GB)
to N Roles (Ger) 7-5 9-6 6-3; R Federar (Swit)
to 3 Ultrarach (C2 Rep) 6-4 7-5.
ST JUDE TOURNAMENT (IMemphis, US)
Blent's alogies, Frare roome A OB Frien (US)
to G Stafford (SA) 6-4 6-2; D Nestor (Can)
tr J Grindroch (US) 6-4 6-3: T Woodbridge
(Aus) br C Costo (Sp) 6-4 7-5; 7 Suzini
(Japan) br D Pescarho (Rorn) 6-4 6-4, Secend rouselt: T Martin (US) to J Stark (US)
7-6 9-6 7-5; M Puerta (Arg) br M HBI (Aus)
5-4 6-1; J Van Lourum (Neth) br M Zabaleca
(Arg) 6-1 6-3; L Tieleman (U) br F Meilgens (Bra) 6-4 6-3; K Carison (Den) br F
Squilland (Arg) 6-1 6-2.

FABER WOMEN'S GRAND PRIX

v kuano-rastual (pg) 7-9 b-6.
WTA EVENT (Colsanstan, Col) Stagles,
first round: M D Olha (Arg) bt C Arrbas
(5g) 6-2 b-1, G Riera (5g) bt R Ottoboni (Arg)
6-4 6-3; E Bes (5g) bt M Ramon (5g) 2-6
6-4 6-3.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL 7.30 unless stated

RYMAN LEAGUE Inthmian Laague Cup second round: Oresham Utd v Da-gerham & Redoridge, Third round: Bar-ton Rovers v Boreham Wood, Pama Cop second round: Berkhamsted v Ayles-bury. Third round: Carshalton Aklet-ic v Walton & Hersham; Whyteleafe v Worthing. Vandaged Trophy third round: Bedford Yown v Leighton. TOUR MATCH: Kingstonien v Widsew Lock (Pol) (7.45).

RUGBY UNION CHELTONIAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP Second round: Briscol v Northamp-ton (7.30). WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Di-vision: Cross Keys v Merthyr (7.0).

BASKETBALL UNI-BALL TROPHY Semi-final second leg: Lekester Riders (75) v Derby Storm (88) (8.0).

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Manches-ter Storm v Bracknell Bees (7.30); New-castle Riverlangs v London Knights (7.15). PONTINS LEAGUE First Division: Shaffield Wed v Manchester City (7.0). AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION OTHER SPORTS SNOOKER: Regal Scottish Open

Hann's theatrics earn a rebuke

CONTROVERSIAL AUSTRALIAN Quinten Hann was again criticised by another fellow professional after his Scottish Open hopes were dashed by Graeme Dott in Aberdeen yesterday.

Hann delayed the contest for 15 minutes in the middle of the match to have a tip replaced on his cue after his initial request. to make repairs was turned down by referee John Williams. Glaswegian Dott later described his opponent's attitude

SNOOKER as "terrible", adding after a 5-2 second round win: "Quinten is so talented he doesn't need to do these things. I don't like his

Matters came to ahead after Hann's 69 clearance in frame five. He indicated to Williams there was a problem with his tip and requested an adjournment. Williams declined to halt the game and told him work could

attitude."

coming off. Hann then disappeared and on his return the tip had worked loose.

The match was stopped while assistant tournament director Lawric Annandale worked on the cue. After the delay Hann won frame six, but Dott took the seventh to earn a last 16 match against John Parrott who beat Leo Fernandez 5-2.

World No 8 Alan McManus beat Willie Thorne 5-3.

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IRISH SEND FOR WOODS P25 • WYER'S MIRACLE ESCAPE P26

The England succession: 'Nation's choice' will take on a dual role for next four games as the FA's search continues

Keegan's caretaker challenge

BY PHIL SHAW

KEVIN KEEGAN was duly confirmed as the England coach in succession to Glenn Hoddle last night - but only for the next four matches rather than 00 the widely predicted fouryear contract.

In an unexpected twist to a saga that was starting to become as protracted as the Hoddle affair, the Football Association's acting chief executive, David Davies, admitted that Keegan remained unwilling to break his contract as Fulham's chief operating officer.

However. Davies said that Keegan was "delighted" to be given the chance to combine both roles on a temporary basis. He dismissed suggestions that it was a fudged arrangement - a caretaker replacing a caretaker – which left the national side in limbo.

The FA had hoped to unveil Keegan as England's ninth manager on a deal taking him through until after the World Cup finals in 2002. Instead, in perhaps the first compromise of Keegan's career, the former England captain will take charge only until June, starting with the must-win European Championship fixture against

Poland at Wembley on 27 March. Contrary to previous reports, Keegan will also be at the helm for the friendly in Hungary a month later, before bowing out after further Euro 2000 qualifiers against Sweden and Bulgaria. In the meantime, said Davies, putting a brave face on disappointment that must have bordered oo embarrassment, the search for a full-time successor would begin immediately.

Davies added: "Over almost three days of discussions with the FA. Kevin indicated that he did not wish to be considered for the England job beyood pleting his contract with Fulham, which runs out in 2000. I've been speaking to Kevin again this evening and he said he was absolutely delighted. He is committed to Fulham, but believes he can do a successful job for the England team as well. He told me it would be a great thrill to work with everyone con-

nected with the national team. We respect his wish to com-



Kevin Keegan takes his Fulham players for training at the Bank of England Club in Roebampton yesterday, just hours before he was put in temporary charge of England

David Ashdown

have been determined to do everything possible to give the players the best chance of qualying for Euro 2000. I'm convinced that's what we've done."

When it was suggested to Davies that Keegan's solution to the ultimate club-versus-country conundrum had left England in limbo, he replied: "We've got the natioo's choice leading us in some crucial games. We wanted to get the best person for the job in the situation we're in, and we've got that. We have to live in the real world. Kevin has made clear what his wishes are - and we respect them."

Nevertheless, the shortterm "fix" poses as many questions as it answers. If, for example, England were to win plete his existing contract. We all four games under the 48-

public enthusiasm in the process, would such a heart-onthe-sleeve patriot be able to turn his back on his country for the sake of a club who may still be in the Second Division?

And what about the pressures that a winning sequence under "the people's choice" and I will stick to that," said Grewould put oo the manager-in- gory. He believed England's waiting, who would come into the job in the knowledge that be had not been the FA's first choice anyway? These issues, as well as how Keegan plans to for specific matches. "There's no work with Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director and interim England coach, will be addressed at a London press

conference this afternoon. Meanwhile, John Gregory, the Aston Villa manager, made England managers Keegan

year-old Keegan and revive what proved to be a timely endorsement of Terry Venables yesterday. Speaking before the FA announcement, Gregory admitted that Keegan would not have been his choice to guide England. "My original thought when the job became vacant was that Terry would be ideal for it, need was not for a manager who was good at the "daily involvement of handling players", but for a coach to prepare the squad one better than Terry, but I'm also an admirer of Kevin's. He would be the ideal second choice

> for his passion, enthusiasm and... buildog spirit." Bobby Robson, one of three

England coach last night.

himself, was positive.

popular guy.

liked another period in the job

served, has warned that it will he difficult for him to dovetail his duties with club and country. Rohson, oow with PSV Emdhoven, said: "My opinion is that if Kevin is to take the job, then he should do it full-time.

When I took the England job and had to leave Ipswich, I was so happy at the club that I suggested to Bert Millichip [then FA chairman] that maybe I could do both jobs. But he said: 'I don't think so'." Robson, who said it took him six weeks to realise that managing England was "not a part-time job", stressed how important it was that Keegan and the FA's technical director, Wilkinson, gelled.

Richard Williams, page 24 Keegan must go, Review, page 3

KEEGAN: FROM ARMTHORPE TO LANCASTER GATE

1951: Born Armthorpe, Yorkshire, 1967: Joined Scunthorne United as 1968: Signed professional in De-

1971: Transferred to Liverpool for 1972: England debut v Wales In

1977: Transferred to German Bundesliga club SV Hamburg for £500,000. 1980: Transferred to Southampton

1982: Last England game as sub-stitute v Spain in Madrid during World Cup finals. Won 63 caps, scored 21 goals, captained England

1984: Retired from playing after helping Newcastle win promotion back to old First Division after stx-

Country wants him - Venables

Doubts have been raised as

to Keegan's emotional suitabil-

ity for the job, but his former

England and Southampton

team-mate Mick Channon be-

lieves he will cope with the im-

1992: After eight years out of the

1993: Newcastle promoted to Pre-mier League as First Division champ-

1996: Despite leading the table by 12 points at one stage, Newcastle collapse to finish runners up to Man-chester United in Premier League. In the summer, breaks world transfer record by paying Blackburn Rovers £15m for England striker Alan Shearer.

Alan Shearer.

1997: Resigns as manager of Newcastle on 8 January, following dispute with club over financial plans
after Stock Exchange floration. On
25 September joins Fulham as
"Oilef Operating Officer", with former England colleague Ray Wilkins
taking charge of team affairs.

mean there's something wrong

one man for the job. "He's the

obvious choice," he said of Kee-

gan. "He gets on with people and

games and he's not frightened

of getting beat. He's the obvious

one-if he wants it and the media

want him. The media are the

worst if something goes wrong. "But whatever he does he'll

be good at because he puts

everything into it. He could build

greenhouses, he could do what-

For Channon, there is only

with his character"

1998: Takes over team control on 7 May after Wilkins is sacked. Fulham reach Second Division play-offs, but fall to win promotion.

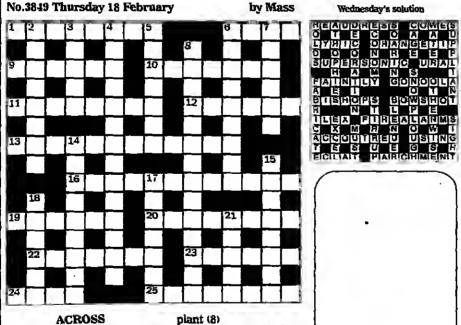
1999: Appointed England coach on 17 February – but only for four games.

HONOURS

lonship medals 1972-73, 75-76, 76-77. FA Cup winners 1974. FA Cup runners-up 1977. European Cup winners 1977. Uefa Cup winners 1973, 76. Footballer of the Year 1975-76. Hamburgt Bundesliga Player of the Year 1978, Bundesliga champions 1979, European Cup runners up 1980, European Footballer of the Year 1977-78, 78-79

Neurostie United (as manager): First Oivision champions 1992-93. First Division manager of the season 1992-93. Premier League runners-up 1995-96.

THE THURSDAY CROSSWORD



1 1 turned out right husybody (8) One could be head of staff that's almost

divided (4)

dwellings) around river (6) 10 Get out, quick! (7) 11 Poor mites outside

Cabins (temporary

- developing inflammations (8) 12 Pound in condition (King Edward) (6)
- 13 Conveying suspense in 16 Report of a wild cat, we 6 hear encountered
- round North (12) Was candidate for Party male? Not specified (6) 20 Stunts upright lopped

Colour Print, St Albana Read, Watterd

plant (8) 22 Beginner got trained (7) 23 Constitutional? Chap-pie's turned into pub (6) 24 Indian's tailed bay (4) 25 Number showing taste

for tripe? (8)

- 2 Arctic goddess of fate's concealing the end for explorer (8) Reduce pay (5) Source of beef? (14) Meets demands? Is in
- the balance, having nothing (5.2) Cast clay's cracked -piece of Ming's a disaster (9) The Spanish regular

Instrument's rendering

Suppliered to a supplier with the Post Office

team (6)

- - Ionian op. without harmony (5-9) 14 Go! (5,4)
 - 15 Asks to have trendy vocalists on radio (8) 17 Left in a European port without freight (7)
 - 16 Bidder about to go to France (6) 21 Second expert in

Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988

February 11: Renewed calls for Keegan see Fulham's chief operating officer, with 18 months

BY STEVEN BAKER

THERE WAS a widespread welcome for the appointment of Kevin Keegan as temporary land the manager. He's in a nolose situation, because if he The former England coach does the business he's the hero, and if he doesn't it's the previous Terry Venables, who would have

regime's fault." Arsène Wenger believes the part-time arrangement must be

"I think Kevin will be a very very good appointment." the strictly temporary.
"It is only possible for Keegan consultant to Crystal Palace to be involved with both England said. "There's no doubt the country wants him, and he's a very and Fulham in the short term, maybe to the end of the season,"

Fulham fans expressed their the Arsenal manager said. delight that Keegan will be in "Even then it is difficult becharge for four games only. cause be has to walk away in the David Lloyd, editor of the fanzine There's Only One F in that is trying to win promotion Fulham, said: "We're dead to be with England when they chuffed that he's honouring his want him. And to do that on a

contract, and you could say it's longer-term basis, I would say it

The "I would love it" outburst, when Newcastle and Manchester United were going for the Premiership title in 1996. has prompted many to argue Kee-gan cannot handle being in the spotlight for example, but Chan-

non said: "The pressure won't be a problem. He's better at coping with pressure than anyone. There's nothing wrong with having a bit of pride in what you do.

with Alex Ferguson doesn't

'The Press have rows with people every day of their lives and just because he had a row

castle, also backed his appoint- and Keegan is the one man who ment. A brief statement read: can provide it."

ever he tried because if he goes into something he does it with enthusiasm." Keegan's former club, New"The Board of directors at Newcastle United wish Kevin Keegan all the very best and we are sure he will do a magnificent job."

John Harris, spokesman for the Independent Newcastle he's enthusiastic. He gets on with big names. He tries to win United Supporters' Association. welcomed Keegan's appointment as part-time England boss. He said: "I think Kevin Kee-

gan is made to measure for the England job. Five or six years ago, he said he was only interested in two jobs: Newcastle and England. He's done one and I'm sure he could do the other. "He's the best choice of all the

candidates, there's no doubt about that. I think he will get the best out of the England players. England need a Midas touch.

How the story unfolded

sist: "I'm staying bere. There is

a William Hill spokesman.

2 February: Gienn Hoddle is sacked after his comments on the disabled and reincarnation. Kevin Keegan is 4-1 second favourite behind FA technical director Howard Wilkinson, who is appointed caretaker coach. February 3: Keegan rules

himself out of the running for the first time. February 10: England are

beaten 2-0 by world champions France at Wembley. Willdinson insists the FA must name their deny he's interested until he's man well before the Euro 2000 qualifier against Poland. "From the point of view of the team's prospects it is crucial that the team knows, or the FA knows, who is going to be in charge and where we are going for that game," Wilkinson says.

it is oever the right time."

chairman Geoff Thompson hints that Keegan has the THE TIMETABLE to run in his Fulham contract, incharisms to lift England's squad

for the Euro 2000 qualifier against Poland on 27 March. "I no way I will leave Fulham. Mr think you're making a case for al-Fayed gave me a budget of millions and the freedom of the Keegan there. I agree with you." club. And that means more to me February 14: Fulham lose than the England job. The tim-1-0 to Manchester United in the ing's just not right." Despite his FA Cup fifth round, and Keegan comments, bookmakers report admits for the first time he a rush of bets on Keegan. "Tve would be prepared to listen to the FA. "I will talk to them - I never heard what he's said and he can said I wouldn't." Fulham owner Mohamed al-Fayed gives the red, white and blue in the face.

People who put that sort of FA approval to talk to Keegan. money on aren't guessing," says February 15: Noel White. the head of the FA's interna-February 12: Former Engtional committee, and David land No 2 Lawrie McMenemy Davies, the FA's interim execclaims Keegan has "all the atutive director, meet Keegan tributes" required for the top for two hours of talks ich. "The timing is wrong - but

February 17: The FA announces that Keegan is England February 13: Acting FA coach for the next four games.

Punters put on hold by cautious bookies

BOOKMAKERS WERE last night refusing to pay out to the punters who have hacked Kevin Keegan to be the next England manager because he has not been given the job on a permanent basis.

Most layers are waiting until today's press conference before updating their betting oo a race which, in their eyes, is still on, although a spokesman for Coral, while describing the Football Asso-"unsatisfactory from a betting point of view", said the first will examine the FA's statement before deciding whether to pay out on Keegan.

However, last night William Hill reissued prices, making Keegan 6-4 favourite to land the

BY IAN DAVIES

job permanently after his fourmatch stint ends.

Roy Hodgsoo is their 5-1 second-favourite with Alex Ferguson, who might become free 1 at the end of the season, down to 8-1 joint third favourite along with Bryan Robson, David Platt and Martin O'Neill. Hills then bet: 10-1 Terry Venables, 12-1 Arsène Wenger, and 14-1 John Gregory. Howard Wilkinson, ciatioo's announcement as 5-4 favourite just over a week ago, is now 20-1 along with the former England manager, Bobby Robson.

Keegan was the focus of punters' attention last Thursday, being backed from 9-2 down to 4-6 before bookmakers suspended betting on him.

She stood by her principles. She stood by her man.

And now she's standing for the Senate. Or so it has been rumoured.

Whatever you think about Hillary, she is probably the last best hope for the restoration of dignity to the Clinton name.

And to American

politics

ust when you thought that the epic of the President, his girl-friend, his wife and their relawyers had finally played itself out, White House Pictures has come out with an inspirational cliff-hanger of an epilogue. Will the wronged wife take to the campaign trail on her own account? Could she take her place in the very body that voted 50-50 to remove her husband from office? Will Bill, chastened puppy-dog that

he is, redeem himself by cheering her on?
In short, will Hillary Rodham Clinton run
for the US Senate? Without a pause to catch
their breath, audiences across America are
responding: "Yes, Yes and Yes! Go Girl!"

And the lady herself, the object of all this enthusiasm? When the clamour this week became too loud to ignore, she said she would think about it. Or rather, in the delicate wording of a statement issued late on Tuesday, "I will give careful thought to a potential candidacy in order to reach a decision later this year." America, agog for a new thrill after a rollercoaster year, must wait and see.

In this land of great opportunity and great projects, which agonises endlessly about the role of women in public life, there would be something both poetic and heroic about Hillary Clinton running for the Senate -which is exactly why the idea has taken wing. Back in November, when Daniel Pat Moynihan, the venerated Democratic senator for New York State, announced that he would not stand at the next election in two years' time, Mrs Clinton's name was not mentioned. To be sure, Moynihan's seat was considered a plum for any Democrat, but it would also be hard fought. The Democrats had just wrested the second New York Senate seat from the tenacious Republican senator, Alphonse d'Amato. The Republicans, and perhaps even Mr d'Amato himself, would be desperate to recoup the loss in 2000.

Screens initially because she had been largely responsible for Al d'Amato's defeat, visiting New York repeatedly to raise funds

paign for his Democratic rival. She had proved herself an accomplished campaigner, not just in New York but elsewhere, throughout last November's congressional elections, raising Democrats' spirits across the country at a time when the future of her husband's presidency – through no one's fault but his own – was in serious question.

What is more, New Yorkers had embraced her with huge enthusiasm at every level: from Democratic Party donors (a crucial constituency) to immigrant taxi-drivers, to suburban housewives, Mrs Clinton was admired for her self-starting toughness, her get-up-andgo, her resilience and independence. The leading lights of the Democratic Party, among them the New Jersey senator Robert Toricelli, noted this affinity and sowed the seed of the idea. After all, New York Democrats needed a celebrity and they needed a winner, and Mrs Clinton could be both.

Mrs Clinton initially kept a judicious silence - her husband was, after all, in the middle of being impeached for lying about an adulter-

BY MARY DEJEVSKY

ous relationship with a White House trainee. Perhaps in frustration, or more probably because the idea was just too delicious to pass over, the bandwagon rolled of its own accord. One seasoned commentator ventured in The New York Times that a "dream contest" for the Senate in 2000 would be Hillary Clinton v Rudolph Giuliani: the tigress wife of the President of the United States versus the bulldog Republican mayor of New York City. That was it: so far as the media were concerned, the horses were already at the starting gate. Small matter that neither Mrs Clinton nor Mayor Giuliani had announced their intentions.

When Mr Clinton was acquitted last week and the Monica Lewinsky affair was consigned to the past, the Hillary-Rudy battle for New York, with its potential for glitz and personality and politics-to-the-death, filled the gap. What had begun as little more than a few quips over cocktails had developed a life of its own. Last weekend's television talk shows, which have thrived for a year on Bill and Monica, turned their attention to Hillary. With that came endorsements from all sides.

The White House chief of staff, John Podesta, surprised his interviewer by taking the question seriously and saying he thought that if she ran, she would win. So, no less surprisingly, did Pat Moynihan. A senator of the old school, who was rumoured to be not best pleased that Hillary Clinton might succeed

she was taking so long to make up her mind, he said be thought she would be an excellent candidate and that she would win. The polls give her a margin of five points or more over Giuliani in a hypothetical contest. Through this crescendo of wishful thinking there has been no suggestion at all that Mrs Clinton put berself in the frame for the New York Senate seat, still less that her husband put her up to it. Her political activity in recent years - with the one unhappy exception of her failed health service reform hill has been to support her husband and Democratic candidates

him, and then to be miffed that

for Congress.
Although she
was known among
her contemporaries at Yale
as a formidable political activist on
the left, she gave up campaigning on
her own account when her husband
first succeeded in his bid for political
office in Arkansas, and became the
family's main breadwinner instead.

Bill Clinton seems genuinely bemused by the prospect of his wife as senator. but by no means hostile. Answering questions from reporters during his visit to Mexico this week, he said be thought she would

make "a terrific senator" if she chose to run, but that the decision had to be hers alone. He said that the thought had "never crossed her mind" before others started mentioning it, and that she had not had time to turn her attention to it – for reasons which he sensibly did not broach. He also said that if she did run, he would support her "enthusiastically" – the first tantalising hint that we could see Bill Clinton singing his wife's praises on the campaign trail next year, paying back some of the loyalty and conviction she has applied to getting him elected over more than two decades.

Mr Clinton's ramblings on the subject were almost the first spontaneous utterances he had made on any subject after a year in which his every syllable, dot and comma seemed to have been approved by a dozen lawyers before he spoke.

By yesterday, the spinmeisters at the White House – who know a good thing when they see one – started to play up the prospect. There was talk of how Mr Clinton saw a reversal of roles as a chance for "redemption", to make it up to his wife for all the burt he had inflicted. More sceptical souls theorised that the togetherness of the Clintons on the mooted New York run provides a welcome carapace for them as they await some of the more gruesome scepuels of the Monica Lewinsky affair: Monica's book, Monica's television interviews, Monica's promotional tour.

It is unprecedented for the First Lady to make a hid for public office - a thing none of her predecessors would have dreamt of - still less, except perhaps in the case of Eleanor Roosevelt, for her to be qualified for it. But in a revealing contribution to the question of his wife's prospects in New York, Mr Clinton said that she had not yet had time to talk to the people who thought she should run, and - "perhaps more important - to those who think he shouldn't".

No one doubts Mrs Clinton's stamina or her resilience. She has demonstrated both in ample measure over the years she has been in the White House, especially in the past year. She has proved, too, her capacity to fight, and she has no weaknesses in the field of policy. Unusually for a woman, especially a woman in American politics, she has surmounted the appearance factor. People listen to what she has to say now, without first appraising her hair, her make-up or her suit.

And boy, would she need that resilience. If

And boy, would she need that resilience. It she chose to run, she would face unpleasant questions of a personal and political kind. There would doubtless be men, and women, who would ask whether she had "failed" as a wife. Her political skill would be called into question, especially her plans for health reform which failed, in part, because of her naiveté about the need for political consensus.

All the investigations of the past years would be revisited: the Whitewater land deal in Arkansas which lost money she invested; the spectacular gains she made on a cattle futures investment courtesy of a family friend; and the "Travelgate" affair in which she was blamed for the disbanding of the White House office travel staff.

Despite exhaustive investigations of each of these - and the formal questioning of Mrs Clinton on her role in Whitewater - no charges have been hrought. The independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, even conceded during the Lewinsky investigation that his other Clinton inquiries had so far turned up nothing incriminating. Even if Mrs Clinton is in the clear, however, more of the mud may have stuck to her name than to that of her husband so far as money matters are concerned - if only because she was the lawyer and main investor in these ventures.

While this may presage a difficult and contentious campaign, there is no suggestion that Mrs Clinton would crumple. After all, what unknown horrors can a political campaign hold compared to those of learning of your husband's infidelity, detail by gruesome detail, in the full glare of the world's media?

The two higger questions about Mrs Clinton's candidacy are propriety and winnability. The propriety of a First Lady running for elected office while her husband is still president is obviously untested, but could produce tricky conflicts. Who pays for her transport and security? Is she travelling as First Lady or as candidate? What if her policy pitches conflict with those of her husband, who will be out campaigning not just for her, but for his current Vice-President, Al Gore?

The higger question is whether Hillary can win. This winter she is riding as high as any First Lady ever. The voters, with the memory of her heroism in the Monica Lewinsky scandal fresh in their minds, are falling at her feet. Party fundraisers see dollar signs in her eyes. Almost two years, though, is a very, very long time in American politics. The mood of the country could change. If it turns against her husband, it could turn against her. New York could drop her as capriciously as it embraced her. She lacks any local power base, and her stated support for a Palestinian state last year alienated many Jewish voters.

For an "ordinary" candidate to fight and lose would be no dishonour. But the loss to Mrs Clinton from failure could be greater. To run for New York, she would be sacrificing the other opportunities – to raise money, to support good causes – that will come her way when her term in the White House ends. To lose in New York could reduce her "price" and limit her opportunities. It could also close two other Senate doors that might open after her husband leaves office: in her home state of Illinois and her adopted state of Arkansas.

Just this once, though, the carry and cautious Mrs Clinton might throw caution to the wind, seize the moment, and run for New York. Hillary for senator against the backdrop of the Statue of Liberty. Bill leads the cheers. What a poster, what a campaign pitch, what a race. Run, Hillary, Run!

enables in the bush

TO LANCASTER 6

THE PARTICIPALITY

irch continues

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EDUCATION

GM food furore

Sir: The current furore in the media surrounding genetic engineering is leading swiftly to a crisis in confidence in publicly funded research and development. This is the result of government policy aimed at increasing the influence of big business and commercialism

Since the early 1980s the research councils have been forced to commercialise research. The Thatcher administration axed any research which it deemed to be "near the market" and ripe for exploitation by private companies. Private industry was in no shape to undertake the research and much was simply ended.

The current administration inherited the policies of the Major government but chose to increase the influence of business over publicly funded research. **Business-dominated foresight** panels do much to dictate the development of research, while the current Minister for Science, Lord Sainsbury, promotes the establishment of "spin out" companies, where research institutes seek private investment to exploit publicly funded research for the benefit of shareholders.

Transnational corporations such as Monsanto are forging strong links with supposedly independent publicly funded research institutes with promises of multi-millionpound investments. Research institutes are now told that one fifth of their funding must come from private sources.

Unions with members in research environments have warned the Government repeatedly of the dangers of this back-door privatisation of research. Research becomes profit-orientated and short-term and the culture of public service and objective science is damaged.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the public should start to question in whose interest publicly funded research is being undertaken. Is it the interests of the consumers or the interests of the producers that are paramount? KEVIN BRANDSTATTER Biological Sciences Research

Public and Commercial Services Swindon, Wiltshire

Sir: An aspect of GM foods that I find, frankly, frightening is that no one in government seems to understand or consider the risks to the environment.

I don't mean the risk that we will kill off our few remaining birds or insects, though that is quite serious enough. Nor that we might accidentally poison some people who are allergic to certain foods. though that is a disaster for those individuals.

What concerns me is the possibility of genes moving, from where we put them, into other species. Given the amount of mixing and churning that goes on in the microscopic world, this would appear to be quite feasible, and the result could quite conceivably be a variety of plagues never seen before.

Since the government is silent on this topic, I must assume that all is well. Still, a few details fascinate me. How exactly was the risk of such an outcome assessed? What possible blights were considered? Who calculated where genes could end up and what effect they would have there?

The price for getting this wrong could be one which all successive generations on the planet will have to pay. And for what? Square NORMAN PATERSON Anstruther, Fife

Sir: A rational approach to the subject of genetically engineered crops and the food produced from them would be to attempt to make a balance sheet of known, predicted and uppredictable benefits and costs to humans and the whole environment. An essential aspect of the benefits side of the balance sheet would be the identification of the sections of society that would gain most.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Women in the Ring No 4: Linda van den Berg receives last minute words of wisdom from her manager, Mick Carney, before her fight against Sonia Daily David Sandison in the Fitzroy Lodge, Lambeth, south London

Would this be the multinational hiotechnology companies, the farmers, the supermarkets or the consumer, and would the benefits be greater in developed or developing countries? Dr RICHARD M JACKSON Godalming, Surrey

Sir: GM plants tolerant to herbicides will, presumably, contain herbicide residues. The "precautionary principle" requires that we assume these residues may harm us when we eat them, unless and until they are proved safe.

The Salk vaccine has done a magnificent job over the past 40 years in saving many from polio: it is only now that it has been found that it may have caused cancers.

That was a very worthwhile benefit and arguably justifies its use despite this new-found side effect. The only benefit from herbicide-tolerant GM foods is to make some rich people richer. Dr KN CHANDLER

Sir. The current media-generated scare over GM foods reminds me of the grotesque hysteria stoked up after the death of Diana. Princess of Wales. Common sense and an intelligent consideration of the facts are thrown to the winds as newspapers and TV present a distorted picture – and then gleefully report how the more gullible members of the public

have been taken in. Millions of acres of GM crops are already being grown worldwide, yet there has not been a single reported case of any ill effects, human or other. Report after report has been prepared by reputable scientists and every one has concluded essentially in favour

of GM crops and foods. Of course proper testing and safeguards are needed. It would be better if attention was focused on the specific improvements needed. If any, to the present arrangements instead of inciting a shameful witch-hunt against the research institutes and commercial

organisations spearheading this potentially immensely beneficial JOHN LANDELL MILLS Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire

Sir: I have been following the Government's approach to GM food with puzzlement, especially when one compares it with the "better-safe-than-sorry" approach to the potentially dangerous mentally ill.

The policy on genetically modified food suggests that we should wait until ofter the worst happens before taking strong . . action, whereas the policy on the detention of "untreatable" potential psychopathic or paedophiliac offenders requires that, on the contrary, they should be incarcerated before a catastrophe occurs.

It is curious that such a fundamentally different approach should be adopted at the same time towards two similarly unknown quantities. BRYNMOR JAMES Knutsford, Cheshire

Sir: Dr Pusztai, the scientist banned from speaking publicly about his study of genetically modified foods, has found evidence that GM potatoes damage the immune systems in rats, but neither Mr

Sir: I concur with Bill Quantrill

(letter, 12 February) - the

least, niggardly. As an

expatriate it is simple to

see that the support is not

quite there: as a tourist in

foreign climes I would be

Sir: Labour's new funding for

respite care, £140m over three

years, represents about £47m

er year for 6 million carers –

£7.70 per carer per year. Care

definitely shaky.

Kuala Lumpur

J K WENNERKOSKI

Foreign Office coverage of

overseas bases is, to say the

Blair, nor Mr Cunningham is taking any notice of that. What a waste of the lives of rats! LILLIAN TAYLOR Worthing, West Susser

Mad or just heretic?

Sir: Quite sinister consequences could flow from the government proposals to detain "untreatable" psychopaths.

Precedents are not in the Government's favour Britain has a long and ignominious history of punishing people who are mentally ill, and of treating as mentally ill people whose conduct simply offended against a moral or religious code.

People accused of crimes but suffering from all sorts of profound psychopathic problems have, in earlier eras, been deemed "bad" by judges sceptical of psychiatric science, and then convicted and sent to prison. Equally welladjusted people suffering from conditions such as epilepsy, and even unmarried mothers, have been deemed "mad" and sent to

We live in an age in which nonstandard conduct is progressively marginalised: the two main political parties are converging in thought; we have a national curriculum for schools; even

IN BRIEF

scierosis in a home run by the

organisation, is £518 a week.

contribute only £244 a week

This is subsidised by the society,

the true cost being over £900. In

towards respite care. The public

must not be blinded by smug

token gestures designed to win

country more than £34hn a year.

votes. Carers are saving this

for sufferers of multiple

MS Society, a non-profit

Leeds, social services

MALCOLM NAYLOR

Otley West Yorkshire

Amnesty International an organisation opposed to torture, is apparently seen as political and partisan. Who can predict what sort of heretical or dissident thought will count as a "personality disorder" in the next century?

A law which permitted confinement on the basis of two experts testifying to something as vague and unascertainable as a psychopathic personality disorder would be courting immense danger of misuse. **GARY SLAPPER** Law Programme The Open university Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Sir; Michael Brown ("Will Tony Benn find himself in one of Straw's gulags?", 16 February) unthinkingly censures the Liberal Democrats for not offering blanket opposition to Jack Straw's proposals for the detention of psychopaths.

Liberalism is not a belief that "anything goes"; it is a belief in liberty in things wherein we do no harm to others. The right of the public to protection against murder, arson and rape is as much a liberty as the need to prevent wrongful detention.

What is wrong about Jack Straw's proposals is that they are

Sir. I am surprised that anyone - group or company – is claiming the right to the title of All Saints ("Clothing company takes action against All

Saints", 15 February). We have had this title, as of right, since AD700. I am sure those in heaven will be glad for the pop group, and the clothing company, to share their name, especially when they rest from their labours. Prebendary KENNETH BOWLER Parish of All Saints, Fulham

being introduced by the wrong government department. The use of criminal law to punish people for offences they have not yet committed is indeed a dangerous precedent. The detention of psychopaths, as Michael Stone seems to have dimly realised, must be justified for the protection of the potential offender as well as that of the public. That means the appropriate department is the Department of Health, although no

treatment is involved. When the Liberal Democrats put up our health spokesman and not our home affairs spokesman to discuss these proposals we were going in the right direction. If we further point out that liberalism does not offer cheap, easy answers to problems which may be insoluble we are telling the truth. Earl RUSSELL House of Lords London SW1

Apologise to Sudan

Sir: Last year you published two letters of mine which threw doubt on the assertion by US that a certain factory in Sudan had been participating in the manufacture or handling of chemical warfare agents. The factory is now known to have produced no such chemicals. and no evidence has appeared that any warfare agent passed through it (report, 15 Fehruary). Clearly, the US, supported by

Britain, made a serious mistake when it bombed and destroyed the factory. The capability of Sudan to provide simple medicines for its people has been damaged by this act of war. There should be no further hesitation: the American and British governments should apologise and give all possible assistance to the Sudanese government in the rebuilding of the factory. The alternative is to wait for US and ourselves to be dragged and shamed before an international court of justice. Professor RJ P WILLIAMS FRS Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory University of Oxford

Zimbabwe's liberty

Sir: The impression created that the government of Zimbabwe is not committed to press freedom and human rights is both misleading and incredible.

The independent press in Zimbabwe is vibrant but the freedom it enjoys should never include the right to deliberately propagate untruths that are calculated to undermine the security of the state.

The media is still free to cover all the issues of their choice provided they are not abusing their position to deliberately destabilise the country. The media chooses to ignore facts that would present Zimbabwe in a positive light.

The issue of the journalists alleged to have been tortured is now being handled by the relevant authorities according to the law of the land. The government has not prevented either the police or the Attorney General from investigating or prosecuting those alleged to have tortured the journalists.

However, this should not detract from the source of the problem the manufacturing of stories by the media designed to create alarm and despondency. As for calls for change of

government, the people of Zimbabwe have an opportunity every five years to elect the leadership of their own country. It should not escape those that

are promoting certain interests that Zimbabweans will again be free to choose their own government during next year's elections.

The current government has never prevented any individual poblician, trade unionist, member of the judiciary or commercial farmer from participating in the general elections.

What is important is for potential candidates to realise that their manifestos should reflect the general aspirations of the majority of Zimbabweans if they would like to be taken seriously by the electorate within the country. Mrs P T MUSAKA Acting High Commissioner High Commission of the Republic of Zimbabwe London WC2

Note to the disabled

Sir: While the Government is reassessing welfare benefits for the disabled, perhaps they should persuade the Benefits Agency to correct a misleading statement on the front page of the "Notes about Attendance Allowance (No DS2A)" given to applicants.

The statement reads: "But if you start to get Altendance Allowance it might affect other benefits you are getting. For example, Income Support, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit."

To a vast majority of would-be applicants, all of whom have to be over 65, this statement reads as if there is the possibility that these benefits may be reduced once they receive attendance allowance. In fact, attendance allowance is not means-tested and other benefits are not detrimentally affected.

On pointing this out to a Benefits Agency office, I received the reply that these named benefits can be increased once a person receives attendance allowance. I was also told that the Benefits Agency is aware that the sentence is misleading and can deter many who would otherwise be entitled to attendance allowance, but as yet nothing is being done to change it. Dr BRENDA MOTHERSOLE Hillingdon, Middlesex

A ripping read

Sir: Saturday's edition announced that The Independent was about to become "even bigger and better". However, I was only able to read this once I had pieced together a newspaper that had been shredded by the newspaper boy's attempts to squeeze it through a standard-size letter box. Not much bigger I hope for his sake and your readers' Sellotape stocks. MICHAEL T PHILLIPS Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire

The importance of being earnestly incompetent

IF YOU turn the pages of this week's Radio Times, past the endless features and interviews, and the film summaries, and the interviews and features (which, oddly, are never about programmes, only about the lovely, lovely people who appear in them) and past the misprint of the week which Radio Times infallibly inserts (this week it's on page 51, where Geena Davis's ex-husband is named first as Mr Hariin and again as Mr Harling on consecutive lines) you finally, on page 64,

get to the first programme listing. Shortly after that - and this is where the story really begins – you get to page 73, where three programmes within two inches of each other caught my eye, because they all seemed to be based on the same idea – an idea which is in danger of taking over the world. I a variety of jobs including Central wonder if it's too late to do anything about it?

Programme 1: Time Team. Tony Robinson and team travel to Sussex to discover why there's a wellpreserved Roman hath house sitting in the middle of a golf course... They have just three days to solve the mystery.

Programme 2: Escape to River Cottage. Chef Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall attempts to live off the fat of the land in Dorset at a tiny gamekeeper's cottage. Arriving with two piglets, and seeds for the vegetable garden. Hugh now has to acquire skills in fishing, deer hunting and shooting game.

Programme 3: Julie Walters Is An Alien in... New York. Julie Walters crosses the Atlantic to New York, where she tries her hand at

Park ranger, waitress and NBC

I think you see the link that binds. Yes, the idea is that if you get someone who is good at one thing to try something else, it will make good television. In other words, if you get someone to do something they can't do, it's somehow, in the face of all logic, instructive and/or entertaining.

So, in the same way, we get footballers being given chat shows, and we get models "writing" novels, and we get prime ministers knowing all about genetic science (and reincarnation), and we get comedians going on Question Time and going on great railways journeys, and we get Janet Street-Porter striding over a countryside she hardly even pretends to take an interest in, and



MILES KINGTON

novels, and we get prime ministers knowing all about genetic science

We get models 'writing'

after a while you begin to wonder what's wrong with people who do know how things are done.

It's the cuit of the amateur taken to ridiculous lengths. People who can't use a camera are asked to make programmes. People who can't cook are brought on to cook. People who can cook are asked to do cooking they have no previous experience of, so we get pointless exercises like Rick Stein standing in a Thai market telling us all about vegetables he's never seen before, or Keith Floyd telling us how

to cook Vietnamese or Texan style, where a Vietnamese or Texan cook might just be more interesting... (Nor is it just on TV that the novice is glorified. Boris Johnson

took up two pages of The Daily Telegraph the other day to describe his first pathetic attempts to shoot birds, as a house guest at Dalmeny Castle, though this did turned out to be a thinly disguised plug for shooting at Dalmeny Cas-tle, with the castle's phone number given at the end and everything.)

It's élitism being stood on its head, which is a lot worse than élitism the right way up. The worrying thing about the Time Team programme with Tony Robinson is that although he has real archaeologists on the programme, they are only given three days to do a dig - in other words, when you've got someone who is really good at something, handicap him to bring him down to other people's levels.

Well, if being really good at something is elitist, then hully for elitism, I say. I once tried to interest people in an idea I had for a TV series in which famous people would talk about or demonstrate something they could do well and loved doing, apart from the thing

they were famous for I seem to remember it included Woody Allen playing jazz clarinet, and I have a funny feeling it included Warren Mitchell playing clarinet as well, though there must have been some non-clarinettists involved. But the idea was always sneezed

at. And I can see why now. The modern trend is towards people doing things falteringly, fallibly and for the first time. The idea of someone doing two things really well is totally out of fashion. Maybe the idea I should have tried to sell is of looking at people who are famous for doing something even though they are very bad at it, and not much good at anything else. I'm thinking of...

A libel lawyer writes: That will do for today, thank you, very much.

The second of the second

Zunbabwe's libery!

Note to the dis-

Arrogance has no place in the modern medical profession

DAVID SOUTHALL, a consultant paediatrician at the North Staffordshire Hospital Trust, carried out a clinical research project for a new type of ventilator. The exercise involved 122 premature babies, and 43 of them died or were injured. It seems a high mortality rate, although these were sick babies and at this stage we do not know the precise details of what happened. The truth will not come out until the publication of the report of the official inquiry that, The Independent reveals today, has been ordered by the Government. What is clear, however, is that the allegations against Professor Southall being made by the parents of the dead and injured babies are extremely serious. If well-founded, they would be the latest in a succession of episodes that have begun to fracture the public's implicit faith in the medical profession.

Few branches of care are more emotively charged than the treatment of sick, fragile and vulnerable infants. And even in this most sensitive of areas, ethical carelessness has crept into the behaviour of some doctors. The most notorious recent case was that of the Bristol heart surgeon James Wisheart, who was found guilty of serious professional misconduct when 29 out of 53 infants in the care of his team died. But similar standards appear to have seeped into other areas of medicine; thus, last November, we learnt about the incompetence of Rodney Ledward, who obscenely boasted that he was "the fastest gynaecologist in the South-east".

The likes of Wisheart and Ledward are isolated examples. But it takes only a few cases of corruption or incompetence or unethical behaviour to taint a whole profession - just ask any politician or journalist. Medicine's governing bodies have to be extremely alert to protect the reputation of those dedicated, skilled and caring figures who make up the bulk of the profession.

But this cluster of cases does also give rise to another worry: namely, that there is a touch too much arrogance within the profession. At the heart of all these scandals is a disregard for adequate consultation with patients, or patients' relatives, a problem all too familiar with those who have regular dealings with the medical profession. In today's consumer-led society, the idea that Doctor knows best is as outdated as the concept of the curative power of bleeding a patient. This is something that needs to be learnt by all doctors.

The answer lies in more openness. According to the parents in the Southall case, they feel angry that the nature of the treatment their children was to receive was not fully explained. The full implications of any treatment should be spelt out to patients or their guardians, especially in cases of extreme distress. Only in this way can new treatments be legitimately tried.



Could it also be that we have been attracting the wrong types into the medical profession? The best doctors are not just brainboxes, but those who can empathise with their patients. This emphasis on a good bedside manner is something which medical training is only now starting to take into account again.

Openness applies to the community as a whole as well as to individual patients. The arguments for publishing performance tables for trusts, hospitals and, indeed, doctors are overwhelming. It is something that is fiercely resisted. It is true that such statistics are open to misinterpretation. But they can also, when used with care and proper adjustment, identify poor performance and shed light on abuse.

We do not lightly criticise the medical profession. Most of us are still happy to trust our doctors. But this state of affairs will continue only if the profession embraces a sort valuable clinical experiment of all.

Unwelcome precedent for British justice

THE JURY in the trial of Anthony Sawoniuk, a British citizen charged with murder, has gone to Belarus to inspect the graves of his alleged victims. Unpleasant work, but someone has to do it. Or do they? For it is important to question what the jurors gain by visiting the scene in this precedent-setting trial. Mr Zan, the key witness, has already given evidence in London. And the jury could easily have been provided with maps and photographs of the area at the time in question, as in other trials.

The argument is, presumably, that the jurors need to Zan's sight lines are plausible. They need to talk to people. ing. They will feel disgusted. They may seek means to pro- England expects every manager to do his duty full time.

vide the dead with justice. Conveniently, there is at hand an object for their righteous anger: Mr Sawoniuk, This is the way miscarriages of justice happen.

Furthermore, can the jury be helped in their deliberations by the presence of journalists and camera crews? The media presence will make things more emotive. This trip to Domachevo will have biased the jurors. Even more important, it provides a worrying precedent.

England expects...

WE ALL know the score by now. A new England football manager arrives on a tidal wave of patriotic enthusiasm. Then he (for it is still always a he), hits a rocky patch and, after considerable bile has been expended, he is ousted. get the context of this case. They need to see whether Mr That's football. But surely it is wrong to appoint a manager on a part-time basis. So, with only a little hesitation, may of medical glasnost. Openness could turn out to be the most However, the jury will find visiting mass graves distress- we be the first to moan about the choice of Mr Kevin Keegan.

What is the point of having businessmen in a government?

are about to discuss a science-related

Science Minister: In that case I will leave the room right away. Civil Servant: Excellent. Later we shall be discussing the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement. Science Minister: Well, I know ab-

solutely nothing about that at all. Civil Servant: In that case, why don't you rejoin the meeting at that point?

SOME SORT of Yes Minister exchange along those lines must have taken place when Lord Sainsbury stood aside from ministerial discussions on genetically modified food, an area in which he had considerable

Mind you, yesterday's Independent reported that Sainshury did indeed attend other meetings in which the issue of geoetically modified food was discussed. This revelation provoked a genuine quote from a departmental official which could have been part of the same sketch. The official stated that: "There is a very clear difference between actually making decisions and discussing policy matters, and having a general discussion." At least it is reassuring to know that an awful lot of discussions are going on, even if the relevant minister cannot attend the ones in which any decisions are made.

Virtually every crisis that this Government has faced has related, in some way or another, to its ministerial recruits from business. Lord Simon was hounded with some success by John Redwood for several months

immediately after the election. Geoffrey Robinson has resigned. Peter Mandelson resigned because of his loan from Robinson. Now it is the turn of Lord Sainsbury.

None of the crises has related in any way to their performances as ministers. Indeed, the reverse is the case. The reason why Gordon Brown was keen to hang on to Robinson was not out of a sentimental attachment, but because be brought the expertise of the private sector to the heart of government. The smooth implementation of the windfall tax on the privatised utilities is one example where Robinson played a pivotal role. John Prescott, too, turned to Robinson as he navigated his way around the minefield of Private Finance Initiatives. Simon is highly regarded in the DTI, while Sainsbury's expertise in his field is not in doubt.

The appointment of business outsiders as ministers was Blair's most daring move in the aftermath of the election. I do not believe he had any intention of inviting Liberal Democrats into the Government unless there had been a hung parliament. But be used his landslide-enhanced authority to bring in business leaders, a bolder move than it seemed at the time. After all, Lord Simon had not been a member of the Labour Party

until he became a minister. The sight of business moving to the centre of a Labour government no doubt appealed to the Blairites' often counter-productive love of political symbolism, but it also served a practical purpose. This was a government full of ministers with no experience of



STEVE RICHARDS

Life has become very difficult for any minister, let alone one who has spent time in the real world

running anything after 18 years of opposition. How reassuring, therefore, to have business leaders in key goveroment departments.

The experiment has failed, not because of the ministers concerned but because of the prevailing political culture in Britain which demands that politicians are closer to saints than flawed human beings. This should be galling not just to Blair but to the rest of us as well. For Whitehall is not a small, self-contained soap opera. Talented ministers produce better policies from which we can all benefit. The current system values an

exaggerated integrity above talent. The Government is a victim of this culture, but it is largely to blame for it as well. In opposition it taunted the Tories with allegations of sleaze. These hit home to such an extent that Blair's administration has to be, in his of the outside world. If this is not folown words, "purer than pure". Add to this the new rules of ministerial con-narrow-minded professional politiduct, which lay down that even a perception of wrong-doing is grounds for dismissal, and life becomes very difficult for any minister, let alone one who has spent time in the real world away from Westminster.

In particular, any business leader is bound to have a problem with the notion that there should be no "conflict of interest". For if they have been brought in to the Government because of their backgrounds it is almost inevitable that, at the very least, a perceived conflict of interest may arise.

Nor is the potential conflict of interest resolved, as Lord Sainsbury is discovering, because ministers put financial interests into a "blind trust" while they hold public office. For the awkward questions in today's saintly climate can still be asked. Did the minister benefit financially in the past? Will he do so in the future, when be ceases to be a minister?

The only way these questions can be neutered is to restrict the ministerial involvement of business leaders to areas that relate in no way to their past experience. This produces the silly situation of a science minister being unable to discuss a sciencerelated topic.

There are two ways of resolving this dilemma. There is the grown-up option, which would greatly enhance the quality of our politics and therefore has no chance of being taken up. This would involve ministers being given some benefit of the doubt because they bring to government a whiff

cians who have been plotting their political careers since age 12. Harold Lever, for example, the multimillionaire businessman in the Wilson/Callaghan government, was seen as an asset in the Seventies. He would not

have survived in the current climate. Unfortunately the "grown-up" option is not available to the Government. The standards it has set itself are so unreasonably high that they exclude professional outsiders. At the moment I doubt whether any more business leaders would want to become ministers anyway. Meanwhile, Blair's glowing admiration of business leaders is being put to the political test. His admiration is undimmed, but he must be more aware now of the political dangers of such close association. I am not surprised he is fighting

hard to save Sainsbury. From now on, the best way to involve business in government will be to bring various experts into particular policy areas, but to keep them firmly on the outside. Martin Taylor remained at Barclays Bank while he helped Gordon Brown review the nightmarishly complex tax and benefits system. Ironically, Lord Sainsbury could have been consulted from the outside as an expert on genetically modified food. But as a fully fledged minister of the crown? Forget it. Labour has been hoist by its own purer than pure petard.

The author is political editor of the

faces several challenges. It TURKEY'S TREATMENT of its

seems that Ankara wants to Kurdish minority remains a

present the Ocalan issue as the stain on its reputation and a

cause of its problems and, by major obstacle to its admission

want to announce the end of the Ocalan behind bars, Ankara

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I'm on an Italian tour now and not unhappy about it." Isabelle Autissier. rescued solo yachtswoman

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Everything you can imagine is real."

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NCDL

YF TURKEY decides to hold something more credible than simply a show trial for Mr Ocalan, he himself will have his own obligations. He will have a global forum and an occasion to take part in a broad public negotiation. Its purpose would be to show Turks that his Kurdish followers are not just killers and that they can contribute to a better life for all the people of their region. In short, less deliance, more vision. The Washington Post, US

WHILE TURKEY has achieved a major coup, the consequences of its success in bringing the PKK (Kurdistan Workers Party) leader home are likely to be portentous. First, there is the question of his trial and the death sentence the prosecutor will probably demand, creating a new estrangement in Ankara's relations with the EU. Second, what impact will Mr Ocalan's incarceration have on the future of the struggle of the PKK

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Comment on the capture of Abdullah Ocalan, of the Kurdistan Workers Party

guistic rights? Third, will Turkey be able to reconcile its natural desire to be part of Europe with a continuing refusal to give cultural and linguistic THE TURKISH government Iron News

fighting for autonomy and lin- rights to its Kurds on the ground that it does not recognise this ethnic minority? Khaleej Times, UAE

are of the opinion that any uncalculated measures taken by the Turkish government regarding the Ocalan issue will exacerbate the already out-of -control situation.

compromise with Kurdish

putting him on trial, seems to

PKK, Ocalan and all Turkey's

problems. However, observers

moderates. That is a course of action that the West certainly should be urging. Sydney Morning Herald.

to the European Union. With

may feel that his PKK has

been effectively decapitated

and so be more inclined to

THE THURSDAY REVIEW The Independent 18 February 1999

PANDORA

MASSIVE ATTACK may have missed out at the Brit Awards, but they can console themselves with the news that they have royal assent. A friend of Pandora's was recently working on the site of Chatsworth House, home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, while Prince Charles and Camilla were guests. Workers were told to keep their music down unless it was Elvis - the Duchess's favourite. Inevitably, the sound barrier was broken, in this case by Massive Attack's Mezzanine album. Far from receiving a royal ticking off, the workmen were told by an aide not to worry as the Prince "thinks Massive Attack are very good".

THE BATTLE of the Brits after-party has become like the post-Oscar parties. Pandora had so many invitations last Tuesday night that she didn't know where to start. The official party at London Docklands Arena never really got off to a swing. As soon as the awards ended, the party people were already heading off. Triple awardwinner Robhie Williams held a party at ChinaWhite, the Balinese-style nightclub in Piccadilly, but the host never showed np. Apparently he was too upset after seeing his ex-fiancée, the All Saints singer Nicole Appleton, with her new

CONTINUING THE search for the ultimate after-party party, Pandora headed over to Browns night-club in Covent Garden. Bono and the double award-winner Natalie Imbruglia popped by and Stevie Wonder arrived with a buge entourage, but the stars of the night had nothing to do with the music industry. David Ginola, Ian Walker and Les Ferdinand were celebrating Tottenham Hotspur's semi-final win in the Worthington Cup.

PANDORA THEN hotfooted it to the Met Bar in Park Laue, where Sony was bosting a party for the Preachers. Also there were Des'ree, Ian Brown of the Stone Roses, Boy George, Catatonia and Boh Geldof, all enjoying chocolate-mint and watermelon martinis. After spotting Julia Carling and Ross Kemp, Pandora decided enough was enough. On her way home she nipped into Home House, a private members' cluh in Portman Square, built in the 1770s for the Home family. This was the venne for the ultimate post-Brits bash. Bono and Imhruglia chose to finish their evening

swapping stories and song ideas alongside The Corrs. Dave Stewart, Richard Branson, Mark Owen and Caprice at the elegant Georgian venue.

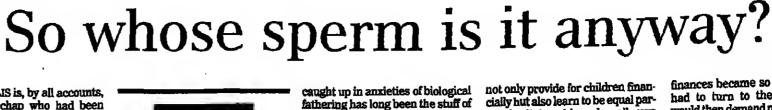
WELSH OFFICE Minister Peter Hain did a useful bit of networking at the Brit Awards. The Welsh bands the Manic Street Preachers, Catatonia and Stereophonics have promised Hain they will give a special concert at the new Millennium Stadium in Cardiff. Let's hope that, despite all the rumours, the stadium really will be completed in time. If not they may have to go down to Cardiff Bay and make some noise at the new Assembly huilding, er, which has also yet to be built.

MPS WERE in a soulful mood this week as they joined forces to sing for the BBC's Songs of Praise. which was being filmed in the crypt beneath the House of Commons. No doubt the Conservatives in the congregation were praying for a miracle.

A DIFFERENT kind of party

was hosted in London by Rupert Murdoch for his son and heir apparent, Lachian, and bride-to-be, the model Sarah O'Hare (pictured). At the dinner party, the Wonderbra model was seated next to Paul Keating, twice premier of Australia, Half-way through the dinner she turned to him and asked: "Do I detect a bit of an Aussie twang in your accent? Where are you from?" Keating admitted that he once lived in Canberra, the home of government in Australia. "Oh really, whereabouts?" she asked, "T've got some friends who live there." The kind of conversation you expect from the Brits, perhaps, but not at Mr Murdoch's table.

Pandora can be contacted at: pandora@independent.co.uk



PETER WALLIS is, by all accounts, an ordinary chap who had been going about his life in a hlameless sort of way. Until this woman Kellie Smith ruined it all. Or so he claims. There they were, two grown-ups having sex with no worries because she was on the pill. How was he to know that during one rapturous climax his innocent, happy sperm was being deliberately tempted to reproduce through an act of gross deceit and theft?

Kellie, you see, unilaterally decided to stop taking the pill because she wanted a baby. Wallis has accused her in a court in New Mexico of denying him the right to consent to fatherhood and of "intentionally acquiring and misusing" his precious sperm. The defence argues that at the moment of ejaculation Wallis "surrendered his right of possession". I have heard of a women's right to own all that is in her body, including ber baby (a dangerous idea at times); this is a new and dodgy one. Smith's lawyers also argue, disingenuously, that if he



YASMIN ALIBHAI-BROWN

If we want men to be better fathers, the decision to have a child cannot rest solely with women

should have used a condom or

"other measures to stop the spill". Stop laughing. This is not a Bridget-Jones-finally-gets-desperate story. It is a serious moral dilemma of our times and a predicament that could have surfaced only in the late 20th century. In some ways, of course, it is not. The anguish of men

drama at its most intense. Think of Strindberg's unbearable The Father, about the torment of never knowing truly whether a child is yours. The playwright was consumed by this in his real life, too. Today all his nightmares would be sorted out within a fortnight of providing the right body fluids. But progress often raises even more complicated questions.

This case, for example, shows the clashes between science, morality, feminism, new man-ism, individual freedom, sexual liberation and the politics of family – and the role of the state in all this. Some British feminists have seen this case as yet further evidence of how men are running scared of controlling women (and a good thing too, is the implication) who took their jobs and their domestic power and are now helping themselves to their seed. I find this demeaning to men

and to feminists. Wallis has a serious case here. If we are asking fathers to take greater responsibility so that they

ents in all those big and small ways that mothers take for granted, then we must accept, too, that meo must have a choice in the matter. Biology makes arguments of equality difficult in this area of life.

If mistakes are made on a wild night that ends in a pregnancy, it is of course the woman who has to face the more difficult traumas and the entire physical cost. But this does not give us the right to grab and determine all the decisions that follow. Not in this day and age. Wallis may want to be an involved father when he does decide to have a child, and perhaps he feels that the spirit of this earlier, unwanted child will for ever

blight that moment in the future. The fact that Smith wants a child should not be reason enough for her to go out and simply get one, as she would a made-to-order hirthday cake. She is thoughtlessly making lifelong decisions for three people here. Even if she demands no financial support today, what if something happened to her, or her

finances became so tight that she had to turn to the state, which would then demand money from the reluctant father?

This is a major complaint faced by the troubled Child Support Agency. Many fathers to lot of them selfish brutes who are lying to get off paying anything) claim that they are victims of the system and women who got themselves pregnant. There is no way you can prove or disprove this, but we can say loudly and clearly that for women to choose to have a child without consent from the father is, in most

If you want to bave a child with out a partner, why not go for artificial insemination from a donor? If it is about making a man commit because he won't, is it really wise to blackmail a person into parenthood when it is so very hard even when freely chosen? What Smith has also not calculated for is the possibility that her child will resent her actions to go it alone as much as her sexual partner does. Then will it all seem

The emergence of Turkey as a major world player

IF THERE'S one thing Western diplomats never tire of, it's arguing over which are the world's most important capitals. Obviously, top dog is Washington; not since our own sweet selves in the 19th century has one country so dominated global events.

But after that? Moscowis still just about up there, if only on account of loose nukes and a vestigial capacity for international mischief-making, Next come the old chancelleries of Europe - Paris, Berlin, London though diplomatic missions at International organisations such as the United Nations and the European Union these days are in truth at least as important. Tokyo, Delhi and Peking also matter, but are too remote to make the A list. And that's about it. Except that right now I would add another capital -Ankara.

Suspend disbelief for an instant and consider the following apparently unconnected events from the front pages in the last few months: knots over enlargement; American Saddam Hussein's air defences; Syria, self-appointed and disdainful arbiter of peace in the Middle East. suddenly starts worrying about encirclement; the Kosovo Albanians search for historical allies and protectors; oil companies and governments wrangle over how to exploit the great energy eldorado of central Asia; and a teenage Kurdish girl sets herself on fire outside a London embassy. Which country is an important factor in every one of them? Not Britain. Not even the US. The answer is Turkey.

Even so, my suggestion sounds preposterous. Isn't Turkey the place fragile caretaker government and a dirty civil war against the Kurds, and whose economic problems are evident from a currency presently trading at some 538,000 to the pound? Yes, indeed, all this is true. But, for its



RUPERT CORNWELL

It is no longer a country which others may cross with impunity: today, Turkey matters

nelghbours, the state that Mustafa Kemal founded in 1923 looks quite strong and influential enough. Just ask Cyprus, Greece or Syria.

In December, unyielding Turkish the European Union ties itself in bostility forced the Cypriots to cancel the planned deployment of rather wobbly at the moment). and British warplanes again attack Russian missiles, after Ankara had warned it would attack the island to destroy them. A couple of months munity in Europe, and especially in earlier. Turkey massed troops on its border with Syria and quietly brandished its unofficial strategic part- many's new citizenship law, and nership with Israel to force you find the problem of the Turkish Damascus to expel Abdullah Ocalan.

And now the sensational capture of the Kurdish guerrilla leader in Kenya, where he had been sheltered by the Greeks. Not for years has Athens been so humiliated by its ancestral foe. The triumph may in the longer run be counterproductive, but for Turks today it must be sweet indeed.

But, as one seasoned Turkeythat the EU won't touch with a watcher put it to me: "It's not so bargepole, a country hurdened by a much that Turkey is suddenly starting to throw its weight around. because it always has. It's just that we notice it now."

And not surprisingly, given that Turkey, geographically straddling Europe and Asia and one of the most

populous countries bordering the Mediterranean, seems to be involved, one way or another, in about every diplomatic developments of note, from Brussels to Tashkent.

It is, first of all, a key member of Nato - once as the front line against the Soviet Union, today as the alliance's easternmost member, and destined surely for even greater importance if Nato this spring adopts a new doctrine enabling it to operate beyond its original European theatre. Indeed, the use of the Incirlik base by Britain and America to patrol the northern no-fly zone in Iraq is probably but a foretaste of things to come.

But Turkey: thanks to its ever closer co-operation with Israel, is now a factor in the other Middle East crisis. Both countries insist that there is nothing sinister about their military co-operation. The fact is that Turkey is now one side of a "triangle" protecting the Jewish state, alongside the US and Jordan (admittedly

Now switch to Europe. Turks form the largest immigrant com-Germany, the EU's largest economy. Peer behind the dispute over Ger-Gastarbeiter, officially foreigners hut German in all but blood. The EU is wrestling with enlargement. But all could come to grief over Cyprus if Greece carries out its threat to veto any new members in Eastern Europe, should a divided Cyprus be refused admission. And who is most adamantly opposed to a unified Cyprus? The Turkish-sponsored statelet in the north of the island.

Which brings us to the Cyprus issue, unsolved for a quarter of a century, and still a flashpoint of potential war between two Nato countries. And, picking our way through a similar minefield of religious and ethnic conflict in the Balkans, we arrive at a real war in Kosovo. This



Mustafa Kemal - Ataturk - the founder of modern Turkey Rex

time the Russians, not the Greeks, more to make people aware of the are the patron power of the Kurdish problem than a decade of Christian party to the conflict. Among the most natural champions of Kosovo's ethnic Albanian Muslims are -you will have guessed by now the Turks.

And the patron's role stretches back across the Dardanelles to the Turkic peoples of former Soviet

Transcaucasia and Central Asia. Today the role is more imagined than real, though note where Azerbaijan's President Geydar Aliyev went for medical treatment recently: not to London or Paris, but to Istanbul. But tomorrow, as the energy resources of the Caspian and Turkmenistan come un stream, transported to Europe almost certainly across Turkey, it will be a different story.

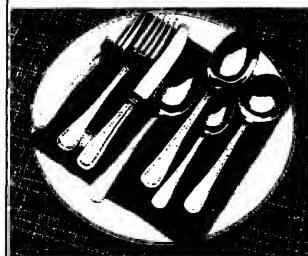
And finally the Kurds. Ocalan's capture may not have ended Ankara's Kurdish problem. Even though military victory in the long civil war in Turkey's south east may now be assured, this week's rash of protests of human rights groups at the brutal, repressive tactics of Turkey's security forces. But the miserable odyssey of the

world's most unwanted man" tells its own story. Yes, his final seizing doubtless owes something to the assistance of the Americans and Israelis (both, we have seen, most anxious to stay in Ankara's good books). But it was Turkey's obduracy, and the bolted asylum doors across Europe, which drove him to the undignified refuge of a Greek embassy outbuilding in sub-Saharan Africa. Turkey is no longer a country that others may cross with impunity. Turkey matters, a great deal.

So if I were a young Foreign Office entrant today, not worried about getting my feet dirty, I wouldn't want to go to Washington or Paris. I'd be boning up on the various crises of the Middle East, EU foreign policy the Balkans, Islamic radicalism and the politics of big oil; embassy occupations has done and I'd be angling for Ankara.

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The iconography of war memorials

with the way the memory of the Great War was reshaped by a mixture of commercialisation and commemoration. He argues that the memory of the Great War was reshaped by a combination of trivialisation through commercialism and entertainment, and sanctification through commemoration, which, together, "masked"

The killing, destruction, maiming and bereavement was evacuated from the public awareness of the war, and a space left which was then filled with positive, consolatory ideas. These ideas represent the war experience as the pursuit of ethical goals, as if it had been a sacred task set for the community which engaged in it. This community was predominantly defined by its nationality, as the war had been organised nationally. Death in this sacred task became a virtuous and valued act

Memorials were sites where this understanding of the dent sacrifice for the nation a very conventional piece of for Leeds city war memorial, in

GEORGE MOSSE'S book was given a lasting expression. Fallen Soldiers deals and so became the shrines of what Mosse calls the "civic religion of nationalism".

Mosse sees the reshaped memory of the war as a myth. It is a myth of the sacred pursuit, through trials and suffering, of the people's - that is, the nation's - self-fulfilment.

By contrast, Samuel Hynes has identified a quite different reshaping process, ending in a different myth, in his A War Imagined, which is a study of the impact of the First World War on British culture. This was a reshaping in which the belligerent and nationalist attitudes of wartime propaganda became the revulsion against war that was so widespread in Britain in the later Twenties and Thirties.

The iconography of war memorials is generally limited. Either it relies on conventional treatment of conventional themes, or it makes a virtue of an almost mute simplicity of form. It is this reticence in the imagery that has led to the accusation that memorials misrepresent the "reality" of war.

The memorial cross at slaughter of war as transcen- Brancepeth, County Durham is



PODIUM

ALEX KING From a paper read by the Victoria and Albert Museum historian at the London School of Economics

church Gothic by WH Wood of Newcastle upon Tyne, a local architect whose practice was very much involved with the Church. At its unveiling in 1921, the officiating clergyman said this: "... a cross reminded them of the horrors and the wickedness of war, and helped them to the declaration never again will the earth be blasted by this terrible curse".

At the unveiling ceremony

Catholic cathedral prayed that it may "...serve to fill us with a horror of war".

For many people - though certainly not all - acknowledgement of what war really had been like was a principal factor in their understanding and interpretation of memorials to the dead. Usually, the sentiments

expressed in these circumstances were fairly uncontentious. But sometimes they could be a good deal more partisan. The London Brighton and South Coast Railway memorial at Victoria station, unveiled in 1921, is simply a large bronze panel bearing a list of names. Apart from that, it has nn imagery to speak of The company chairman, who was unveiling it, used the occasion to pronounce judgement on

the meaning of all memorials: "These memorials are, in a higher sense, not for them but for us, to bid us be conscious of our trust and mindful of our duty. What are this trust and duty? Are they not the trust and duty we owe to our country." That sounds like nationalist talk

As far as Germany is concerned, huilding memorials to

the dead of the Great War seems to have got off to a slow start. There is some evidence that deep divisions in local politics frequently prevented memorials being built until the end of the Twenties, and it has been suggested that many local memorials were completed only after the Nazis put an end to democratic local pol-

itics after 1933. Richard Bessel says, in his book on Germany in the immediate aftermath of the Great War, that there was no lack of anti-war feeling in Germany at that time. It is interesting that this feeling seems never to have informed the commemoration of the war dead as it did in Britain and, according to Antoine Prost, also in France.

If as Mosse says, a masking of the true nature of war did take place, and a thoroughly nationalist cult of the dead developed as a result, it is in the institutional context of war commemoration that we should seek the reason. We should look at bow the memorials were built and by whom, how interpretations cir-

culated and bow the world of local political activism was organised.

The Pope's last crusade



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PAUL VALLELY

John Paul II has denounced the West for being in the grip of a 'culture of death'

THERE WAS irony in the impertinence. A former film idol was quoting a 13th-century theologian back at the Pope. And not just any old theologian but St Thomas Aquinas, the Catholic church's most eminent systematic thinker and the authority whom John Paul II is fond of summoning to support his own stances.

The papal interlocutor was Joseph Estrada, best known for his roles as an avenging hero on behalf of the poor He is now President of the Philippines, in which capacity he recently authorised the death by lethal injection of a house painter convicted of repeatedly raping his 10-year-old stepdaughter. Leo Echegaray this month became the first man to be executed in the country for 23 years.

The President, who came to office last year after a popular campaign to get tough on criminals, rejected a papal appeal for clemency. In riposte he quoted Aquinas: "Although it be evil to kill a man so long as he preserves his dignity, yet it may be good to kill a man who has sinned, even as it is to kill a beast." To underscore his resolve, Estrada announced that he "felt good" about his decision, adding, "future rapists need to know we mean business". In a display of disapproval at the

decision, the Church ordered that every bell in the land should toll at the bour of execution. The death of Echegaray would not sound a knell over the Vatican's new crusade against the death penalty. At the end of the longest pontif-

icate this century Pope John Paul II may be failing in health, but he has been moving with renewed energy against capital punishment (which has been making a bit of a cline in both the developed and developing worlds). It is a campaign which we can expect to see stepped up, for John Paul II has set himself the target of a worldwide moratorium on state executions by the end of the millennium.

With some success. It was top of his list of concerns on his recent visit to the United States - the only Western democracy that still endorses judicial killing. He raised it in priwate with Bill Clinton, knowing that publicly the President is a lost cause. Clinton is the man who, in the



The Pope's target: Death Rows such as the Ellis Unit in Huntsville, Texas, which houses many of the 3,517 Americans awaiting execution

midst of the 1992 election, rushed back to Arkansas to sign the death warrant of a mentally retarded felon.

But John Paul II has had more influence on others. Since the papal visit, three state governors - in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas - have commuted death sentences after, as one of them put it, "careful consideration of his direct and personal appeal and because of a deep and abiding respect for the Pontiff and all he represents".

The Church has not always been so robust on the subject. The Old Testament sanctions the death penalty for murder, striking or cursing one's parents, kidnapping, bestiality, sorcery and sacrificing to alien gods. And leading theologians, from St Augustine through Aguinas and the reformers Luther and Calvin, up until the popes of the 20th century, have regarded it as an unpleasant necessity.

As with so many modern advances - such as democracy and the emancipation of women - secular impulses led the way. Liberal philosophers and sociologists raised doubts about whether the death penalty really deterred murderers or preserved public order, and exposed the inevitability of sometimes executing innocent prisoners.

The movement to abolish capital punishment is historically a recent phenomenon. Venezuela was, in 1863, the first country permanently to abolish the death penalty for all crimes. Today more than half of all the countries in the world have fol-

lowed suit, while another 25 states

have not executed anyone in the past 10 years. If anything, the Church has dragged its feet on the process. As recently as 1994 Rome issued a new Catechism which endorsed its centuries-old view of execution as morally legitimate "in cases of

extreme gravity".

But something significant occurred in the drafting of the jority of the commission which drew it up voted not to outlaw the death penalty, an additional caveat was added - at the personal insistence, according to one Vatican insider, of Pope John Paul himself. It condemns "the unnecessary recourse to the death penalty, when other bloodless means are sufficient to defend human lives against an aggressor and to protect public order

and the safety of the person". Two years later, in his 1996 encyclical Evangelium Vitae, the Pope pronounced that "today, as a result of steady improvement in the organisation of the penal system" the number of cases in which the death penalty was permissible were "very rare, if not practically nonexistent". By July last year, when the United Nations convened a conference on how to establish a permanent International Criminal Court, the Pope was instructing the Vatican delegation to call for the death penalty to be excluded from

Then in November be gave backing to an Amnesty International proposal for a worldwide moratorium on the use of the death penalty after the year 2000. In the same month, using diplomatic channels, he sent te anneal to Pr Estrada in the Philippines. Finally, in his Urbi et Orbi message at Christmas, he made an explicit call for the global abolition of the capital penalty.

What lay behind his creeping conversion? Some commentators spoke of his experience living in Communist eastern Europe where state-sanctioned death was a chilling commonplace. But more significant was his uncompromising opposition to abortion which, he became steadily convinced, could not be divided from a comprehensive sense of the inviolability of life. His logic led him to agree with the analysis of the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. The Chicago cardinal faced with a US church split between Catholics who were viscerally opposed to abortion but in favour of the death penalty, and vice versa - insisted that the Church's moral stance in defence of human life must be like "a seamless robe".

The black-and-white Augustinian logic of the Polish Pope, much criticised by liberal intellectuals, came into play bere. This is the theological temperament which has led him to denounce the Western world as in the grip of a "culture of death" a culture that is not a chance ocby powerful cultural, economic and political currents which encourage an idea of society excessively concerned with efficiency".

But here it led him, to the delight of those same liberals, increasingly to see a contradiction between defending human life "from conception to natural death" and supporting death by execution.

the Philippines may not agree. But It is not surprising therefore that all this came to a head with the papal visit to the United States last month. There are four countries which, between them, were in 1997

RIGHT OF REPLY

DAVID **EDMONDS**



The director general of Oftel responds to criticisms about its reform of

telephone numbers

NOBODY LIKES changing telephone numbers. That's a fact. Number capacity is running out. That's a fact, too, Another fact is that the telephone is uo longer just a way for us to chal to loved ones or make husiness calls. It is the physical infrastructure for the information superhighway - the route to the Internet, the lines used by companies to send data ranging from sales tig-

ures to financial transactions. In a few years we have seen an explosioo of services offered via our telephones, and another certainty to add to death and taxes is that more services will be dreamed up in the years ahead.

Already there are homes with a line for the Internet, one for the fax and another for the phone. You can have different ringing tones for each member of the family. It all eats up numbers.

Mike Moore/Daily Mirror

responsible for 84 per cent of exe-

cutions: China (which killed 1,876

people), Iran (143), Saudi Arabia

(122) and the US (74). The United

States has executed 500 people

since it reintroduced the death

penalty in 1976; today it has 3,517

ico, on the eve of his arrival in Mis-

souri, "a model of society appears

to be emerging in which the pow-

erful predominate, setting aside

and even eliminating the powerless"

through abortion, euthanasia and a

death penalty that is applied dis-

proportionately to those who are

of death, and is therefore in oppos-

ition to the Gospel message". The

dignity of human life "must never

be taken away, even in the case of

someone who has done great evil".

The death penalty, he said on land-

ing in St Louis was "both cruel and

unnecessary" and must he ended.

Catholics - in the United States and

then morality by majority vote has

never been something Pope John

Paul II has had much time for It is

both his weakness, and his strength.

The opinion polls - even among

The United States, he said fierce-

In such places, he said in Mex-

prisoners on Death Row.

poor and hlack

Even before Oftel took over numbering in 1994, work was going on to ensure that there was enough number capacity to meet demand. The National Numbering Scheme was drawn up after independent research in 1996. There were four public consultations.

In 1995, Phoneday added a 1 to every geographic number. This increased available capacity from 900 million numbers to 9 hillion.

We are taking advantage of this and between now and April 2000, Northern Ireland. Coventry, Portsmouth and oton Cardif London will get new 02 codes. Failure to act would see these areas running out of numbers by the summer of 2000.

Oftel will work to ensure that those affected have enough warning to plan ahead and avoid unnecessary costs. But failure to implement these plans and hring in new codes where needed could leave the UK floundering in the oew digital age that lies ahead. That cost is too high.

The Arthur Daleys of diplomacy

HOW DARE they! I have scarcely recovered from the misery of reading This Blessed Plot, Hugo Young's account of Britain's calamitous international relations since the Second World War, when Paul Lashmar and James Oliver present an equally absorbing, depressing and well-written work.

Young's book sets out in masterly detail the monstrous incompetence of recent British politicians and civil of rvants. He tells how these people guided the country down wrong roads and up blind alleys, seeking to superannuate the Empire at one moment, depending on the Commonwealth the next, truckling to Washington thereafter, but always turning up their fastidious Kiplingesque noses at our Continental neighbours.

How was it that a British establishment - so well paid and so splendidly honoured - played out such a ridiculous pantomime? How could it have continued supercificusly spurn-



THURSDAY BOOK BRITAIN'S SECRET PROPAGANDA

WAR: 1948-1977 BY PAUL LASHMAR AND JAMES OLIVER.

SUTTON PUBLISHING, £25

ing the European future, leaving our country isolated on the margins of the European Union, potentially the greatest economic power the world has vet seen?

Paul Lashmar, one of Britain's foremost investigative journalists, and the historian James Oliver have produced a fascinating and authoritative study of one agency of state - the Information Research Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office which was responsible for more than its fair share of such strategic blun-

ders. This is a sad tale, splendidly told. Created in 1948 and funded from the clandestine budget of the Secret In-

THURSDAY POEM

GROUND COVER GENUS VINCA

Dark green that first year, it lacked promise,

huddled against the wall. Nettles rioted over it,

white and choking. Butterflies hovered, bees

got their fill. But we dug and cleared, found out its name:

periwinkle. Ground cover, 'useful where weeds'.

By it I placed a cauldron yanked up from the cellar,

filled it with pansies. This year its green became brighter

shot all over, shy purple flowers nudged out into the sun.

Free now, covering distances.

Ground cover. Making ground.

This poem comes from 'Anyone Left Standing' (£5.95

from Smith/Doorstop Books, The Poetry Business, The Studio,

Byram Arcade, Westgate. Huddersfield HD1 1ND) by Kath Mckay.

the winner of the 1997 Poetry Business Competition

telligence Service, MI6, the IRD had as its not ignoble task the campaign against Communist influence outside this kingdom, and the battle for worldwide public acceptance of British strategic aims.

One of its most important operations, which proved to be one of the last independent actions of global significance by British intelligence, was its assistance in the overthrow in 1965 of President Sukarno of Indonesia, whose troops had been seeking to destabilise Malaysia. The operation, one could argue, had its justification.

But did the IRD know that his successor, General Suharto, was to preside over the immediate massacre of hundreds of thousands of Indonesians? It probably did. After all, the US, our Nato ally and junior partner in the campaign against Sukarno, passed on to Soeharto's army the names of thousands of left-wingers.

As these people were killed by the army, their names were crossed off a list at the US embassy in Jakarta. In that city running with human blood, the diplomat Robert J Mertens said "They probably killed a lot of people, and I probably have a lot of blood on my hands, but that's not all bad. There's a time when you have to strike hard at a decisive moment."

Did the IRD know that Subarto would go on to slaughter a third of the population of occupied East Timor, plunder Timor's oil and, in our day, cause the almost fatal weakening of the economy of South-East Asia? Probably not. But members of the department can never evade responsi-



The Information Research Department lent vital support to General Charles Dharapak/AP Suharto's regime in Indonesia

bility for helping to put him there in the first place.

The department was, however, always the Arthur Daley of the British diplomatic world, staffed with people disdained by their colleagues as less than high-fliers. The IRD ended up deserting its official brief and peddling smears against a British prime minister and half-truths to its allies in the British press about what was going on in Northern Ireland.

Just before Dr David Owen closed it down in 1976, the department was asked to prepare a broad philosophical briefing for the Labour government. As the white terrorist government in Pretoria was beating up or murdering those black activists it was not locking up on Robben Island, the hapless IRD produced a document entitled "South Africa: the Communist Peril".

In Latin America, IRD tried to seek intellectual acceptance for its right-wing views but was hampered by the quality of the staff it employed (or

One thinks of the troubled Australian, Robert Moss, author of Chile's Marrist Experiment - a book rushed out to support Augusto Pinochet within 10 weeks of his 1973 putsch and which formed part of a series portentously entitled "World Realities". Moss, say the authors, had visited Chile, then under the disorderly but democratically elected government of Dr Salvador Allende, at the expense of Forum World Features, a CIA op-

eration based in London. The department used to send me its briefings on Latin America - unattributably and, like direct-mail condoms, always under plain cover, never franked and always bearing an adhesive stamp. I was constantly struck by the oddity of their arguments and the paucity of their supposedly "privileged" information. The briefings never contained anything that could not be gleaned from a reading of the daily newspapers in any Latin Amer-

HUGH O'SHAUGHNESSY

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Patrick Lag

Herbert Kline

AN ACCOMPLISHED and committed maker of documentary films, the leftwing activist Herbert Kline was one of the first Americans to go to Spain during the civil war and capture on film the strife and suffering there. He later obtained graphic footage of Hitler's occupation of Czechoslovakia (with the unwitting help of the Nazis themselves) in Crisis, described by The New York Times as "one of the finest political documentaries ever made".

He documented Hitler's conquest of Poland in Lights Out in Europe, and worked with the writer John Steinbeck on a film about peasant life in Mexico, The Forgotten Village. Later he made a moving film about the Holocaust and other documentaries distinguished by their fresh approach, fine photography and personal commitment.

Born in Chicago in 1909, and brought up in Davenport, Iowa, Kline was interested in radical politics from an early age. In his twenties he became one of several editors for Left Front magazine in Chicago, and from there he moved to New York, becoming the editor of New Theater magazine, whose coverage soon expanded to include films and dance. He was among the first to publish the plays of Clifford Odets. He also became part of the New York Film and Photo League, a sociopolitical documentary movement, in

In December 1936 he resigned from New Theater and went to Spain to cover the civil war for several publications. By March 1937 he had teamed up with the Hungarian photographer Geza Karpathi to make Heart of Spain, about a Madrid mother who meets the young soldier whose life she had saved with a hlood transfusion. Kline and Karpathi later admitted that neither could load a film camera when they started on the project.

In order to make Crisis, the Jewish film-maker hluffed his way into Czechoslovakia by pretending to be pro-Nazi. While he filmed rallies and parades, storm troopers carried his equipment and followed his directions before the camera. He wrote later, "It seemed strange for one of my verboten and despised racial origin to have a troop of SA men to do my bidding and march and heil and shout as they were told." Frank S. Nugent wrote in The New York Times when the film opened in 1939:

It is the study of a beleaguered democracy in the dark days after the Nazi Austrian putsch, in the still darker days after Munich. It ends with the betrayal of the republic, with the streets groan-ing under the dirgeful tread of bewildered men and women marching, singing, sobbing, protesting, looking forlornly for a leader...a concise, com-plete, obviously authentic and extraor-dinarily graphic record of a significant and tragic historical event.

Crisis had been Kline's first collaboration with the great Czech cameraman and editor Alexander

Hackenschmied (later Hammid) and the pair teamed again, with additional photography by Douglas Slocombe, for Lights Out in Europe (1939), described by B.R. Crisler in The New York Times as

not just another well-intentioned "docnot just another well-intentioned "doc-umentary" but the most beautifully comprehensive report on the recent neurological prelude to war in existence ... Lights Out in Europe gives the first panoramic picture of the world crisis in all its infinite political, economic, racial, propagandistic and brutally military ramifications which has yet reached

Kline said later, "Crisis and Lights Out were conceived as a dramatic statement of an anti-Fascist point of view. They were definitely on the side of the democracies, but they were not hiatant 'propaganda'. They were movies of the real-life drama of various aspects of anti-Nazi resistance."

Receotly reshown by Anthology Film Archives, the avant-garde group headed by the film-maker Jonas Mekas, Lights Out in Europe, for which James Hilton provided the commentary, spoken by Fredric March, still impressed: "It has a stimulating energy and freshness, stated the historian Howard Mandelbaum. "Many documentaries are basically compilations of archive footage, but this was obviously spe-cially shot material, beautifully pho-tographed and edited and with a strong viewpoint."

Kline was always the first to credit the contribution made by his cameramen, writing some years later that Henri Cartier-Bresson (with whom he worked on a second film about the Spanish conflict, Return to Life, in 1938) and Alexander Hammid were two of the greatest talents he had ever worked with. "I've worked with James Wong Howe, Lee Garmes, Douglas Slocombe and other notable cameramen, and I would say they're all of the same level. Their eyes can do

John Steinbeck provided the narrative (spoken by Burgess Meredith) for Kline's next production, The



Kline (right) with Jawaharlal Nehru in Delhi, 1963, discussing a film project

his village from colitis caused by a poisoned well, but they are constantly hampered by the villagers, who are under the influence of the local Wise Woman. Finally driven out by his father, the peasant goes with the unit to Mexico City to study medlcine, stating, "I must be a doctor and help save the lives of my people."

The working method was very

'It seemed strange for one of my verboten racial origin to have a troop of SA men to do my bidding and march and heil and shout as they were told'

Forgotten Village (1940), shot in Santiago, Mexico, with Hackenschmied co-directing, photographing and editing. When shown at the Brussels World Film Festival in 1947 it won first prize as Best Feature Documentary.

The film depicted the struggle between superstitious ignorance and new ways of science. A young peasant tries to help a medical unit save

simple and yet required great patience," said Steinbeck: A very elastic story was written. Then the crew moved into the village, made friends, talked and listened. The story was simple: too many children die -why is that and what is done about it, both by the villagers and by the gov-ernment? What we found was dramat-

ic - the clash of a medicine and magic that was old when the Aztees invaded the

plateau with a modern medicine that is

as young as a living man.

The film writer Roger Manvell described it as "a minor masterpiece". He wrote:

The photngraphy is hright with the harsb sunlight and the contrasting shadows of black foregrounds of cacti and village walls ... The film is full of beautiful and expressive close-ups: the mother who smiles with her shawled head tilted, the friendly simplicity of the father, joyful at the birth of more children, as he wices the sweat and the flies dren, as he wipes the sweat and the flies from his face. When his soo dies an unforgettable shot turns from the vil-lagers dancing before the funeral to the still face of the mother, resigned in

In 1947 he joined the novelistscreenwriter Meyer Levin to direct My Father's House, an acclaimed feature-length film dramatising the struggle of former Holocaust prisoners to establish a homeland in Israel, but his attempts to move into mainstream film-making were less successful. In 1944 he had coscripted the Val Lewton production Youth Runs Wild, about teenagers left undisciplined by parents at war or working in defence plants, and in 1949 he directed a poorly received commercial feature, The Kid From Cleveland, in which a sports reporter hefriends a delinquent who loves baseball

After directing The Fighter (1952), a taut hut minor thriller set in Mexico and based on a story by Jack London, Kline found himself, like most overt left-wingers in Hollywood at the time, blacklisted, and he did not make another film until Walls of Fire (1973), about the Mexican artists Diego Rivera and David Alfaro Siqueiros, which won an Oscar nomination.

He followed this with further documentaries: The Challenge: a tribute to modern art (1974), narrated by Orson Welles and also nominated for an Oscar as Best Feature Documentary; Acting: Lee | interested in politics, and his back- Frederick Petre Crowder, politi-Strasberg and the Actors Studio ground gave him a Tory disposition. (1981); and Great Theatres of the | In the traditional manner, he was World (1987).

From 1980 to 1992 Herbert Kline lived and worked in London on a variety of projects, including a book. New Theatre and Film 1934-1937. He returned to Los Angeles in 1992.

TOM VALLANCE

Herbert Kline, documentary filmmaker: born Chicago, Minois 13 March 1909; married Josine Ianco-Starrels (one son, one daughter, marriage dissolved); died Los Angeles 5 February 1999.

Petre Crowder

guished barrister and junior political figure, but he is probably most remembered for his successful defence of the East End gangsters the Kray twins against a charge of demanding money with menaces, and of Ron Kray when he was charged with the murder of Frank Mitchell. He went on to become Recorder of Colchester between 1967 and 1991.

He was born in 1919, the son of Sir John Ellenborough Crowder. He had a privileged childhood and youth, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He evinced an early interest in the law, but in 1939 volunteered to join the Cold-stream Guards. He had an active war in North Africa, Italy and Burma; in this last theatre, serving under Field Marshal Sir William Slim, he attained the rank of Major.

As with so many others who served in the conflict, his civilian peacetime career was cruelly interrupted and he was not called to the Bar until 1948. Thereafter his career progressed steadily rather than spectacularly: he became a QC only in 1964, and in 1971 was appointed Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

In January 1964 Reg and Ron Kray, along with another man, Edward Smith, were arrested and charged with demanding money with menaces. The magistrate hearing the case took the steps of refusing bail for the brothers and concealing the names of witnesses against them, for fear of retribution. Crowder appeared for the Kray twins; the defence argued strenuously that they should be allowed bail, on the grounds that

these two young men had been deprived of their liberty since January, and it was unlikely that the case would be heard this side of March; they would have served, in effect, a sentence of two months' imprisonment for something of which they might well be acquitted.

The Krays were found not guilty in April that year. At Bow Street Magistrates' Court

in 1968, the Krays, with Frank Foreman, were accused of helping in the escape of Frank "Mad Axeman" Mitchell from Dartmoor prison, and then of murdering him. Albert Donoghue, the Krays' former henchman, said: "Foreman described how Mitchell's heart was ripped and burst and said it was surprising how small his brain was for a big man like that. He said Mitchell finally 'went into the pot', which I understood was an incinerator or something." Crowder appeared for Ron Kray; both Krays were acquitted.

Like many lawyers, Crowder was blooded at a by-election in North Tottenham just after the 1945 general election. This was a hopeless seat, but, also in the traditional way, he was rewarded by being selected to stand as a candidate in the safe constituency of Ruislip-Northwood in the general election of 1950. Later, when changes made by the Boundary Commission altered the constituency to Hillingdon and Ruislip-Northwood in 1974, he held the new seat even through the two Conservative general election defeats of that

PETRE CROWDER was a distin year. He was not to retire from the House of Commons until 1979.

By that year Crowder's political career was over: any hopes he had ever entertained of ministerial office had long been dashed despite the patronage of Reginald Manningham Buller, who appointed him to serve as his Parliamentary Private Secretary from 1952 to 1984 during which time Manningham Buller was first Solicitor-General and then Attorney General.

Being a Parliamentary Private Secretary is both arduous and unpaid, hut the joh is usually undertaken by ambitious politicians in the hope that loval service will be rewarded by ministerial preferment However, as Manningham-Buller's star faded, so did that of Crowder Until he left politics, therefore, his main preoccupation was with his legal career.

Crowder's life and work serves as a paradigm of the careers of many lawyer politicians. He had every advantage of background, education and wartime service to his country. and enjoyed at least some ministe. rial patronage, hut he never managed to attract prime ministerial favour. It could perhaps be said that he was unfortunate in being taken under the wing of Manningham-



Representing Ron Kray in 1968

Buller, a man who, whatever his skills as a barrister, his colleagues found difficult, if not impossible, to like.

Although, at 79, Crowder could look back on a long and successful career in his main profession, here again he never quite reached the front rank. But a parliamentary system as sophisticated and demanding as that of the United Kingdom depends to a very large extent on the long and unstinting service of men (and women) such as Petre Crowder

PATRICK COSGRAVE

14:11

cian and barrister; born 18 July 1919; called to the Bar, Inner Temple 1948. Master of the Bench 1971, Reader 1990, Treasurer 1991; MP (Conservative) for Ruislip-Northwood 1950-74, for Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood 1974-79; PPS to the Solicitor-General 1952-54, to the Attorney-General 1954-62; Deputy Chairman, Hertfordshire Quarter Sessions 1959-63, Chairman 1963-71; Recorder of Gravesend 1960-67, of Colchester 1967-91; QC 1964; married 1948 The Hon Patricia Stourton (two sons); died 16 February 1999.

Nina Stanger

NINA STANGER was an unusual woman to find practising at the English Bar in the late Sixties and early Seventies. Beautiful, Bohemian and fiercely clever, she hrought glamour to the group of left-wing lawyers who championed civil liberties and defended in the political cases of the time. She was born in Bromley, in Kent,

in 1943; her father was an accountant, her mother a schoolteacher. After studying at the London School of Economics, she was called to the Bar in 1965. She was soon involved in some widely publicised cases. She defended the Holborn squatters and the squatters in 144 Piccadilly, who were arrested after they occupied empty huildings to draw attention

When the Old Bailey was bombed in 1972 she was one of the lawyers who defended the Price sisters. She also acted in many of the cases arising from student unrest in the universities and indeed met her future husband, the Oxford politics don and writer Steven Lukes, when she acted for the students involved in the occupation of the Indian Institute

The Seventies also saw the resurgence of the Haldane Society as a meeting place for progressive lawyers. As an organisation it had gone through a moribund period but was revitalised by a new generation who wanted a serious discourse about the role of lawyers of the Left in making the law accessible to those who were disadvantaged. Stanger was an active member and her contributions to debate were delivered with great precision and dry wit, informed by her passion for civil liberties rather than rigid ideologies. which she deplored. She had an



exquisite voice which she used to great effect, especially with judges, and abundant blonde hair which looked glorious even under the

Although Stanger continued to practice throughout the Seventies, her marriage in 1977 to Lukes transformed her life, as it did his. Their partnership led them to diversify many of their interests. They travelled extensively to the United States and Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Peru, South

I first met Nina Stanger in 1971 when she had just represented the protesters against the Miss World contest and was part of the legal team defending in the Angry Brigade trial (a group of anarchists who in the late Sixties and early Seventies attempted to bomb es- rence and she could think of no tablishment targets). Women at the criminal bar were still few in number and here was one with the sort of practice which interest-

Her exquisite voice she used to effect, especially with judges; while her abundant blonde hair looked glorious even under the barrister's wig

he reassured that survival was possible in that chilly, maledominated environment; she not only provided warmth and wisdom, which I came to recognise as her hallmark, hut was also a constant source of encouragement in the years which followed.

Whenever we met she was full of news, political and cultural, as well as stories about the legal systems she had witnessed. She also co-founded the British Kurdish Friendship Society in 1975 and with a handful of others put the issue of Kurdish oppression on the agenda.

The birth of her three children followed and then in 1987 her husband was offered a post as Professor of Political and Social Theory at the European Institute in Flomore idyllic place to live. She embraced the move to Italy as a great adventure, even though she had herself just that year been admitted ed me. I sought her out, eager to to the New York bar - she and

Steven had previously planned to go MARY EDWARDES made herself the support organisation for sexually and live in America

Although she continued over the years to take cases on an intermittent basis, her main focus became her children, her husband and Italian life, which enthralled her. She became immensely knowledgeable about Renaissance art and history. which seemed so appropriate as she had always looked like a Fra Angelico painting herself. She also | the role of full-time executive wife durmade a comparative study of ing her marriage to the industrial-English and Italian law and not ist Sir Michael Edwardes and having only organised conferences on the raised three daughters, like so many subject in Florence but acted as a women of her generation she reconsultant to Italian lawyers about turned to higher education, was di-British practice.

When I last saw her two years ago at a political seminar in Siena she was as vibrant and beautiful as it (she was chucked out of her under ever. Amidst proud and tantalising descriptions of her children, she made me promise that I would resist all attempts by government to interfere with jury trials in Britain. Having seen the inquisitorial system at close quarters, she was highly critical of it.

Her descriptions of her life were wildly funny but delivered as always with careful pacing and a wonderful turn of phrase. She was well abreast of the political scene in the UK and incisive in her commentary about the key players. As we parted she told me of her plans to return to practice but only after she completed a novel which had been taking form in the months before.

HELENA KENNEDY

Nina Vera Mary Stanger, barrister: born Bromley, Kent 6 August 1943, called to the Bar 1965; married 1977 Steven Lukes (two sons, one daughter); died Galliano, Italy 30

Mary Edwardes

queen scourge of unethical professionals. Whether they were priests, psychotherapists or doctors and whether caught with zips undooe or ethics in a twist, Edwardes was remorselessly effective both in supporting their victims and in demanding justice.

Her life closely paralleled the times in which she lived. Having filled worced and began a career of her own. Infuriated by social injustice and

prepared to go to any length to right graduate degree course at the University of Cape Town for campaigning against discrimination against black students), after graduating as a psychodynamic psychotherapist at the Lincoln Institute in London, in 1991 she rapidly huilt up the first major



Champion of the exploited

and otherwise abused clients, the Prevention of Professional Abuse Network, with Jenny Fasal. There followed a steady flow of

newspaper articles and a BBC documentary publicising the problem. Eventually, the Department of Health was forced to confront it and last year Edwardes established a new charity, Survivors of Professional Abuse National Association (Spana), with a strong emphasis on obtaining legal redress against miscreants.

Edwardes was constantly amazed and outraged at the lengths to which priests, therapists, doctors and their training institutions (especially the Roman Catholic Church) would go in order to silence clients whom they had abused. In the process of proving that they were neither mad nor liars Edwardes employed the skills of a natural advocate, with a keen appreciation of the law, but she would also act as therapist, friend and even mental nurse. Her selfsacrifices would have been beyond the call of duty in a healthy person, which she was not for the last 16 years she suffered from the exhaustion and depletion of multiple scierosis.

She was born Mary Finlay in 1938, into a well-to-do family in Johannesburg. After a conventional education (she attended the South African Roedean School) she married young. For the next 20 years she followed her husband Michael from Zimbabwe to Worcester to London as he progressed to the job of running the British car industry which made him famous in the 1980s.

Intensely loyal, discreet and witty she was a splendid hostess and had no difficulty in holding her own in the exalted company she was now reouired to keep. Whether it was a weekend at Windsor with the Queen, small talk with Margaret Thatcher or entertaining Jeffrey Archer (about whom she was extremely funny) for supper, she was more than equal to the task

Had this been the only role she played in her life, it would have been a terrible waste of her quick mind and cunning, pragmatic capacity to make things happen, and in the mid-1980s she suffered two significant reverses: she developed multiple scierosis and her marriage ended. In recovering from these adversities she carved out her role as a champion of the exploited.

As a person she was always looking for the comical or absurd in any circumstance, be it ever so grand or tragic. She was non-judgemental, so that you could say anything at all to her without shocking, yet she was conscientious and fiercely moral. She hated "bullshit" and prized the truth.

Above all, she was someone who enabled others. Two clients whom she treated as a therapist have told me that their lives were transformed by her, but her helpfulness exteoded to all her relationships. Few of her friends and family have not been profoundly aided by her in both the most practical and the most psychologically telling ways. Uncomplaining, unselfish but twinkle-eyed, full of fun and never the martyr; it is the small minority of people like her who keep the rest of us on the right track. morally and emotionally.

OLIVER JAMES

Mary Margaret Finlay, psychotherapist and campaigner, born Johannesburg 9 March 1938; married 1958 Michael Edwardes (Kt 1979; three daughters, marriage dissolved 1984); died London 13 February 1999. S. Hit Ish II Mark

Indrani Rehman

AS ONE of India's most vibrant and Devi and in the late 1920s travelled south best known classical dancers, Indrani Rehman performed before heads of state in the Sixties and popularised ancient dance forms for Western audiences. After years of international performances before leaders such as Mao Tse-tung, Nikita Khruschev, John Kennedy, the Queen and Fidel Castro, she settled in New York in the 1970s and became a faculty member of the Juilliard Dance School at the Lincoln Center. She also taught various Indian classical dance forms at Harvard and other leading American universities.

Unlike most classical Indian dancers, Rehman did not specialise in one dance form, hut performed several, such as Bharata Natyam, Kuchipudi, Kathakali and Odissi. She was instrumental at home and abroad in popularising Odissi, the dance form that evolved in the eastern Orissa state. She had spent three gruelling years learning it, and she presented the highly evolved Kuchipudi style (which, like most classical dance forms, comes from the south of India) to overseas andiences for the first time.

Rehman's captivating beauty (she was one of the first Miss Indias, in the early 1950s), her grace and hreathtak-ing costumes, fired the imagination of post-independence India and won her state patronage. Among numerous trips abroad in the 1950s and 1960s, she led two cultural troupes to China where she performed before Chairman Mao and the prime minister Chou En-lai.

She also greatly impressed the Indian prime minister Jawaharial Nehru who ensured that she was a member of his official delegation on important visits abroad. On one such trip to the United States in 1961 her dancing in New York enthralled President Kennedy and his wife Jacqueline. Eighteen years later she gave another memorable presentation there - Three Generations of Indian Dance - accompanied by Ragini Devi, her American-born mother and mentor, and her daughter, Sukaniya.

Rehman was born in 1930 in the southern Indian city of Madras, the daughter of Ramalal Bjapai, an Indian scientist and president of the Indo-American League, and Esther Sherman of Petoskey Michigan. After moving to India in the mid-1920s, Sherman, already an accomplished classical Indian dancer, changed her name to Ragini

to Madras to study dance. Here, she created history by becoming the first woman to storm the male-dominated bastion of the Kathakali dance drama form that originated in Kerala state hundreds of years ago, by giving a public performance of it.

All Indian classical dance forms trace their origins to the more than 2,000-year-old Natya Shastras, or "Theatre Scriptures", and strive broadly to portray, through dance, scenes from ancient Hindu mythology. For example the best known, Bharat Natyam, concentrates on complex foot movement and facial expressions with the dancer's body remaining erect, while in Odissi the performer'a body is curved and the movements subtly different. The difficulty in learning them stems from the fact that all classical Indian dance genres necessitate decades of intense discipline and dedication, and a serious pupil's life is nothing but a laborious ex-

Rehman's captivating beauty, her grace and breathtaking costumes, fired the imagination of postindependence India

ercise in honing and perfecting hodily movement to a highly evolved art form. Rehman began learning dance at the age of five from U.R. Krishna Rao, an accomplished teacher in Bangalore, and four years later was taken by her mother on a performing spree to Paris and other European and American cities. At the age of 15 she married Habib Rehman, an Indian who was studying architecture in the US, and she returned home to continue learning dance from

acknowledged gurus in the south. Shortly after independence in 1947 Rehman attracted the attention of India's leading dance and art critic Charles Fabri, a Hungarian Jew settled in India, who promoted her in his wide-



sa and learn the little-known Odissi which she is credited with popularising.

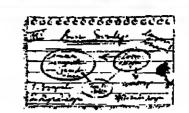
Rehman's heyday as India's unrivalled danseuse lasted till the mid-1970s, a period during which she not only achieved international acclaim but was also awarded the Padma Shri, India's highest civilian decoration, and the prestigious Dance and Drama Academy award. In 1976 she moved to New York, where she continued to dance but

was not a "purist", never having ever February 1999.

ly read columns in *The Statesman*. He also persuaded Rehman to go to Orisform. Serious critics considered her an excellent ambassador for Indian culture, hut for an audience not overly familiar with ancient classical dance. However, critics and admirers unanimously concede that, unlike several contemporaries Indrani Rehman was a highly urbane and warm person, one who generously patronised hudding talent, and helped them achieve fame.

KULDIP SINGH

concentrated more on teaching, and on encouraging and discovering new talent. 19 September 1930; married 1945 Rehman's dalliance with various Habib Rehman (died 1992; one son, dance genres led to criticism that she one daughter); died New York 5



MATRIMONIAL NOTES

'For my mother it was so easy,' said Janet

JANET'S MOTHER had fol-lowed the traditional path trodden by generations of young British women; school, a brief vocational training. marriage in her early twenties to a man who would invariably be some years older and more highly educated. two or three years of low-paid work, and then babies, who were considered to be a full-time job.

The pattern was ubiquitous - most of Janet's mother's schoolfriends followed suit, often staying in the area so that she had a familiar network of triends with a similar way of life. These days, however, the courting ritual has changed somewhat.

"For my mother it was so easy, so sutomatic," sighed Janet, a 36-year-old accountant. "She met my father at a Christmas dance in the local town hall. She was with her schoolfriends, all giggling girls of 17. My father was at university in Bristol, 40 miles away, but he was spending Christmas with his parents, doing a vacation job with the Post Office. He asked my mother for a dance and she liked him and was sorry he had to leave early -

he had a late shift. "They were too shy to suggest meeting again, but she saw him in the market two days later, when he was delivering letters and she was buying vegetables. He offered to carry her shopping and take her to a coffee bar and it took off from there."

Some time later they got engaged. They were married two years later in church by the rector, who knew both families well. Janet's parents had waited to marry until her father had left university and got his first job - as was the norm in those days. Her mother got two A levels, took a secretarial course, and worked in an office. She still lived at home. so she saved a little, which

helped them to start nut. Thirty-eight years after Janet's parents married, her mother is as perplexed as her daughter about where Janet's life is leading. There is no doubt that Janet's mother is very proud of her daughter; she tells everybody about her clever daughter, a chartered accountant with a high-powered City joh, a Knightshridge flat, powerful car and gorgeous clothes. But, when it comes to meotioning boyfriends, Janet's mother tends to go

fairly quiet, "She hoped I'd settle down with one in my twenties. My brother married, at 28, a girl he met at a local college. But I weot travelling in Asia before university in Scotland, and then a job in Loodon where I worked incredibly hard. I was always exhausted: and I lost all my

childhood friends." Janet faces the problem which confronts thirtysomething young women in the 1990s who would like to marry but cannot find a suitimproving, nor is it likely to unless she takes some conscious action.

She can start by avoiding men who fear commitment: she lived with one from the age of 3t to 34, initially as an exciting adventure, eventually accepting sadly that he would never marry her and have children. Her mother when Janet left Henry, and grieved with her when six months later Henry married a spectacular-looking but

vacuous blonde of 22. "I used almost to despise my parents' set-up, it was so cosy and hourgeois," said Janet, "I thought they and their friends had such boring lives. I can do pretty much whatever I like - hut I have nobody to share it all with. The men I meet are either colleagues - and you mustn't mix personal with professional - or married and wanting a fling, or serial dsters, or gay, poor, wet or divorcing and petrified of taking the emotional and financial plunge again.

"Some have children, which is a complication. Others are frightened by an intelligent and successful woman - they want someone less daunting. My mother didn't have any of that. I quite envy her."

Penrose Halson is the author of Happily Ever After - how to meet your match' (Pan. £6.99)

Penny Brohn

AS SURVIVORS of the ill-fated "Chilvers Report" which you mention in your excellent obituary of Penny Brohn (by Tim Bullamore, 12 February], may we correct a couple of details? write Isla Bourke and Heather Goodare.

The women with breast cancer taking part in the survey and attending the Bristol Cancer Help Centre for complementary care numbered 334, and were compared with 461 women who underwent orthodox therapy only. The Bristol Survey Support Group, formed to challenge the research and support Penny and the centre, managed to contact 23 of the Bristol women through the cancer self-help network. Eleven of these women con-

tributed their stories to a book. Fighting Spirit, published in 1996 by Scarlet Press. Also. while in no way wishing to denigrate Penny's splendid and inspiring achievement, your figure for UK five-year survival of women with hreast cancer should be corrected to

Our work has borne fruit. Though we cannot of course claim the entire credit for trends towards consulting consumers in medical research, we have made a contribution The Cochrane Collaboration has taken the lead in involving consumers in its work. The NHS now has a Standing Advisory Group on consumer involvement in its Research and Development programme, and

63 per cent.

the NHS Health Technology Assessment Programme also consults consumers. Moreover, "integrative med-

icine", rather than add-on complementary care, is the order of the day, and cancer help centres may now he found in many hospital settings - a far cry from the days when Penny Brohn was told, "There is nothing you can do to help yourself." Today every supermarket has its department of organic produce, whereas when Penny was trying to find it 20 years ago it was extremely scarce.

As she used to say about the crisis of cancer crises can be turned into opportunities. Inspired by her, this is just what we did.

Iris Murdoch

MAY I add a note to your ohituary of Iris Murdoch [by Paul Levy, 10 February]? writes Robin E. Waterfield. I first met her when she was in London just after the Second World War and writing poetry, some of which was published by my friend Tambimuttu in the magazine Poetry London. They were good friends and we all used to meet in a pub in Oxford Street also frequented by poets as various as Sir John Waller and Roy Campbell.

I renewed my acquaintance with her much later when I opened a bookshop in Oxford. She found out that I was a practising Christian and wrote to me of her own beliefs, saying that she was "either a Christian Buddhist or a Buddhist

Christian", she was oot quit

sure which. Later she agreed to meet a schizophrenic working-class girl, Sarah-Anne Maw, whose poems I had published. Both Iris and Anne Ridler attended the little launch party we had, and Iris and Sarah-Anne sat chatting happily together. Iris was unfailingly kind and helpful and seemed to find time for all who called for help.

Later I had the pleasure of arranging for her to meet Professor John Macquarrie and Bishop Rowan Williams, who told her that the Church of England would survive, which seemed to reassure her.

Her deep interest in religion and her kindness should not

Housebuilder credited with input tax

estate agents' fees charged in connection with sales of the existing homes of pnrchasers of the househuilder's houses, it was entitled to be credited with

The House of Lords allowed the appeal of the Redrow Group plc against a decision of the Court of Appeal that it was not entitled to be credited with input tax in respect of estate

WHERE A housebuilder paid

input tax for Value Added

Tax purposes in respect of

The taxpayer was the representative member of a group of companies involved in constructing new houses. It operated a sales incentive scheme by which it would instruct an estate agent to handle the sale of the existing home of a prospective purchaser of one of its houses. If that purchaser completed the purchase of one of the taxpayer's houses, the taxpayer would pay the estate

agents' fees.

The taxpayer deducted input tax in respect of the estate agent's fees, but the Commissioners disputed the deduction.

The taxpayer's appeal against the assessment was allowed by the Value Added Tax Tribunal, which concluded that on the evidence the agents' services were supplied to both the taxpayer and the individual purchasers, although in each particular case it was necessary to await events and see to whom the agent had made the supply, since it was only if the taxpayer became liable to pay the agent's fees that the agent's

The Commissioners' appeal to the High Court was dis-

THURSDAY LAW REPORT

18 FEBRUARY 1999

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Redrow Group plc

House of Lords (Lord Steyn, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord Hutton and Lord Millett) 11 February 1999

missed, but that decision was reversed by the Court of Appeal, which held that, in determining whether the tax borne on any services was creditable input tax, the services in question must have a direct and immediate link with the taxpayer's taxable transactions and, viewed objectively; the estate agent's services were directly and immediately linked to the sale of an individual purchaser's home and not to the concurrent sale of a Redrow house.

The taxpayer appealed. Richard Bramwell QC and John Dick (Troicers and Hamlins) for the tarpayer. Paul Lasok QC ond Melanie Hall (Solicitor to Customs and Excise) for the Commissioners.

Lord Millett said that in BLP Group plc v Customs and Excise Commissioners [1996] 1 WLR 174 the European Court of Justice had said that in order to give the right to deduct input tax under Article 17(2) of Council Directive

(EEC) '77/388, the goods or services referred to in Article 17(5) had to "have a direct and immediate link with the taxable transactions".

The Court of Appeal in the present case had treated that as determinative, not merely of the question whether the agent's service was attributable to the taxpayer's taxable supplies, but also of the identity of the person to whom the

supplies were made. That was, however, a misreading of the decisioo in the BLP case, in which the taxpayer's claim to deduct tax. which included professional fees in connection with the sale of its shareholding in another company, was refused on the ground that the sale of the shares was an exempt supply. It followed that no part of the cost of the services in question could be attributed to the tax

payer's taxable supplies. The starting point should he the taxpayer's claim to deduct tax. Once be had identified the payment of which the tax to be deducted formed part, the question was whether he had obtained anything used or to be used for the purpose of his business in return for that payment. That might consist of the right to have goods delivered or services rendered to a third party, and the grant of such a right was itself a supply of services. Those conditions were satisfied in the present case. It was not necessary that there should be "a direct and immediate link" between the service supplied by the agent and sale of a particular Redrow home.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

GAZETTE

University, 78; Sir Arthur

Norman, former chairman of

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

HILLS

BIRTHS

KNAPP: Bryan, Rachel and James announce the birth of Matthew William on 18 January.

DEATHS POTT: Janet. Died peacefully at home on Monday 15 February.

aged 95 years.

TRETHEWEY: Chris. Died peacefully at home on 16 February 1998 aged 71 years. Beloved husband of Bridget, much-loved father of Rachel and Becky. A service of thanksgiving will be held at Central Church, Torquay, on Wednesday 24 February at 2pm. Family flowers only, Donations if desired for "The Friends of Roweroft" may be left by retiring collection or sent to Torbay and District Funeral Service, Wellswood House, 11 Babbacombe Road, Torquay.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries. In memori-am) are charged at £6.50 a line

Wales, 54; Mr Michael and magazine editor, 77; Miss Phyllis Calvert, actress, 84; Mr José-Maria Canizares, golfer, 52; Miss Sinead Cusack, actress, 51; Mr Roy Dean, former diplomat, 72; Mr Phillip DeFreitas, cricketer, 33; Mr Len Deighton, novelist, 70; Professor Edward Edwards, former Vicesity, 85; Mr Cyril English. ing Trust, 76; Mr Milos Bailiff of Guernsey, 77, Mr Graeme Garden, actor and scriptwriter, 56; Dr James Houston, Emeritus Physician, Guy's Hospital, 82; Sir Peter Laurence, former ambassador, 76; Miss Prue Leith, cookery editor and restaurateur, 59; Mr Peter

Luff MP, 44; Professor

William McKane, Emeritus

Professor Hebrew and Orien-

tal Languages, St Andrews

BIRTHDAYS

player, 36; Mr M.J. Argent, Chief Constable, North Buerk, broadcaster, 53; Miss Helen Gurley Brown, writer Chancellor, Bradford Univerpresident, Nahonwide Hous-Forman, film director, 67; Sir Charles Frossard, a former judge of the Courts of Appeal of Jersey and Guernsey and

Mr Roh Andrew, rugby

ADMIRAL OF THE

De La Rue, 82; Mr Jack Palance, actor, 79, Lord Paul, chairman, Caparo Group, 68; Mr Bohby Robson, football coach, 66; Miss Greta Scacchi, actress, 39; Miss Cybill Shepherd. actress, 49, Mr Ned Sherrin, television presenter and producer, 68; Mr Richard Thomas, former diplomat, 60; Mr John Travolta, actor, 45; Sir Max Williams, former President, the Law Society, 73; General Sir John Wilsey, former Commanderin-Chief, Land Command, 60.

DAME MARY CARTWRIGHT

A Memorial Service will be held at Girton College, Cambridge, on Saturday 13 March 1999 for Dame Mary Cartwright, Mistress of Girton from 1949 to 1968. The service will he beld in the College Chapel at 2.30pm. Please contact Sarah Pickard, College Secretary, Girton College, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0JG (telephone 01223 338951, fax 01223 337021 or e-mail sjp54@cam.ac.uk).

FLEET LORD LEWIN

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin will be held in the Chapel of the Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich, at 3pm on Tuesday 13 April 1999 Dress for the occasion will be day dress (nonceremonial) or a dark lounge suit. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets no later than Friday 5 March 1999, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope, to: Ministry of Defence, Naval Personnel Secretariat 2B3, Room 222, Victory Building, HM Naval

on Wednesday 31 March 1999. They will be issued on an individual hasis and applications should include the full names of all those who wish to attend, Admission to the service will be by ticket only. In the event that ticket applications exceed Chapel capacity, it would be helpful if applicants could indicate their connection with Lord Lewin. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified

by post,

Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LS.

Tickets will be despatched

ENGAGEMENTS

ROYAL

The Duke of Edinburgh, Pairon, attends the Outward Bound Trust. Friends' Reception, at Buckingham Palace, followed by the Patron's Company Dinner, at St James's Palace. The Princess Royal opens new wards and facilities at Sidmouth Victoria Cotinge Hospital, Sidmouth, Devoc; visits Sidmouth Homeopathic Clinic, Sidmouth, as Patron, Sense - the National Deafblind and Rubella Association - official come the new Day, Centre at Provibind and Rubeln Association - omean opens the new Day Centre at Provi-dence Court, Exeter, Devon, and offici-ty opens Applemend, a new group hom Wrimple, Exeter; and, as Patron, the National Antistic Society, officially ope reamona Aminer Society, outcany op-sumders House, the new off-site residential unit at Arounhayes School Northam, Devan. The Duke of Keat, Patron, the Hanover Band, attends a concert at St. John's Smith Square, London SWL CHANGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavairy Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard: Horse Guards, 11sm; 1st Battalion Thuke of Wellington's Regiment mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham

lace, 11 30om, band provided by the

LECTURES

National Gallery: Colin

Wiggins, "Fra Angelico

Marco", 1pm.

(iii): Fra Angelico at San

National Portrait Gallery:

Artists: Elizabeth Butler and

Liz Rideal, "Women War

Laura Knight", 1.10pm.

services were supplied to it.

ONE OF the staff in Brighton reference library was crouched by a shelf and I asked her where I could find that week's issue of The Grocer. She could not help, she explained, as she was on intime. I did not say as much but had hoped that, even in this era of management-

speak, librarians would

WORDS CHRISTOPHER

HAWTREE in-time, n.

the use of words. In any case, surely she was not in but ont now. among the public. No, she

conserve some interest in

continued, out was to be fielding queries at the desk. from which in-time is a respite. One can nuderstand this need, for, at the desk, the librarian was wearily dealing with somebody on the telephone who sought telephone directories printed several decades before the device

My brother's legacy is ruining my life

Angie's brother was a talented but totally unsung artist. When he died a year ago, Angie promised she would get his 300 huge abstract pictures to as big an audience as she could. But no dealer nor auctioneer will have the paintings and she's having to spend £4,000 a year storing them. She says she just can't throw them away. What can she do?

VIRGINIA'S ADVICE

sbould oever be kept. It's so difficult to refuse a request, wheo someooe's dying, to change your name to Scaremongering-Bonkers, to bring your child up a Moonie, or to marry Mr Wrong. And then, for work on. ever after, when you've brokeo the promise, you feel like an utter swine, riddled with guilt like a cancer. Or, worse, wheo you've fulfilled the promise, you feel eaten up with resentment.

Angie's brother has left her a terrible legacy - a legacy of his own unrealised hopes and dreams and, ultimately, what he saw as his inadequacies.

First let's look at it in a practical way. The Tate apparently gets large numbers of letters from relatives in exactly the same position. So Angie's not alone. And as far as any friends I have in the art world know. there has been not a single painter who had absolutely no success at all before he or she died, who has later been hailed as a genius. So the chances of Angie's brother launching himself as a great, or even reasooably OK, saleable artist from the grave are, to all intents and purposes, zilch. Big abstract pictures by complete unknowns, as Angie's found out, have no mar-

ket value at all these days. If I were Angle I'd blow this year's storage money on renting a large warehouse and having a huge exhibition. She should make slides of those pictures that don't sell and then either destroy them or give them away as canvases for young students to

But, of course, this isn't a problem that's just about selling pictures. It's about bereavement. And guilt is a common little devil after a death. Perhaps Angie feels that at some level she wasn't a good enough sister to her brother when he was alive and selling his pictures would assuage her guilt. Perhaps she can't bear to acknowledge his death completely and is hanging on to some part of him. Perhaps in some awful way it'a worth £4,000 a year to put off the day when she has to acknowledge that he's really gone. While she still has his pictures on her mind he is, in a way, still alive for her. I wonder whether it would

necessary part of a much larger Like seeds in a field, millions need to be sown for a few to come up. If Angie could see her brother's work as some of the crucially important seeds strewn around the abstract movement, would

meaningless? Only some are chosen to survive, and sometimes they're not the right ones and it's not always fair, but they can't all thrive because there simply isn't room. As it is, there have been more than 10,500 "name" artists at work in Britain and North Ireland since the 1940s. There just isn't space for any more, even though these are merely the tip of the iceberg.

Goethe said "Our deaths keep the universe young". This means the death not just of people but also of their creations. Angie's brother made a con-

tribution in his way during his lifetime, if only to be part of the abstract movement in the ether. He and his art haven't died in vain. But to try to keep his works going at this stage is like slapping the cheeks of a corpse to bring it back Angie has tried to fulfil

help to see his work as being a her bravepromise she couldn't have done more. Now she should let both her brother, and his life's work seem quite so in peace.

DILEMMAS

WITH VIRGINIA IRONSIDE



READERS' SUGGESTIONS

This is an impossible task Angie does not yet know what she is up against. I do. My husband is a talented artist producing huge, unsaleable abstract paintings. I have spent 15 years, written hundreds of letters, cajoled dozens of gallery directors, humped the things around, up and down stairs, lifted and heaved them for hanging until I have nearly dropped with exhaustion. In 15 years, about six or eight have been sold. I have tried giving them away - no one wants them. If the pictures are oil on canvas on a stretched frame, I suggest Angie take them all off the frames and store them rolled up. The stretchers can be sold, or iven, to art students. If the pictures are framed, she can sell the frames. Artists, in my experience,

Hertfordshire

is in the act of "doing".

This is about bereavement Poor Angie. She must have been very close to ber brother and probably ambitious for him though I suspect that he just found his painting an absorbing and fulfilling hobby. In her grief I think that she is attempting to keep his memory alive. He might well have been sbocked if he had realised that sha would feel she

do not seem to realise that the

fun and achievement of painting

must keep and sell his pictures - was he aware of what her promise would mean to her?

She needs bereavement counselling and the courage to get a frank professional assessment of the oeupre - then hang a few small favourites in ber home and get rid of the rest. I think this is what he would have wanted. JANE GOODWIN

Why not try the Internet? There can be no wider audience than the Internet. Why not set up a web page and take digital pictures of the paintings offering them for sale or free to a good home. This should certainly cost

less than £4,000 a year. If you don't know someone who can help you do this, there are evening classes in how to set up websites and in digital imaging, so you could gain a new hobby and friends too. ROSEMARY NOBLE Bognor Regis, West Sussex

Send them to a hospice Many hospitals and hospices have arts programmes that seek to lift the spirits of patients. It may be that (if suitable), the paintings could reach a wide audience if she offered them, on loan or for sale, to hospitals in her locality. ANNE GREER Arts co-ordinator. Gloucestershire Royal NHS Trust

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

Dear Virginia, This may seem trivial, but it means a lot to me. Recently I've seen a doctor at the local hospital, and a consultant Though I'm middle-aged (and they're the same age or younger) they address me by my first name. What I find so annoying is that they expect me to address them as Mr or Dr So-and-So. To say "I'd prefer you to call me Mrs Palmer" sounds pompous, and I don't want a consultation to

get off to an unpleasant start.

How can I deal with this in a civilised way? Yours sincerely, Sally

Anyone who has their advice quoted will be sent n bouquet from Interflora. Send letters ond dilemmas to Virginia Ironside, "The Independent", 1 Canada Square. Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, fax 0171-293 2182, or e-mail dilemmas@independent.co.uk - giving a postal address for the bouquet

Cambridge is not a city, it is a social, economic and scientific triumph. A phenomenon. Yet because of its success people can't afford to live, work or travel there. By Ann Treneman

Where are the real people?

ou may think that Cambridge has very little to worry about. things in Britain - a real success. The gown-town has become a boom-town. All this and great architecture too.

The people of Cambridge are not shy about noting any of this. Some may say they were a bit smug, but perhaps there is reason to be. The university is seen as outstripping Oxford these days. The town has attracted 1,100 hitech firms, with 35,000 rather good jobs to go with them. The county has been the fastest-growing in England for the last 20 years and is expected to be so for the next 20. Why, even Bill Gates is a tourist when he comes to

Cambridge.
It is called Silicon Fen, but the locals have a better name for it: the Cambridge Phenomenon. People use this phrase a lot. They do not bother to explain it because it is assumed that you know. But now there is Trouble in Phenomenoo Land. The first hint of this is the fact that people are obsessed with the price of bousing. And this is

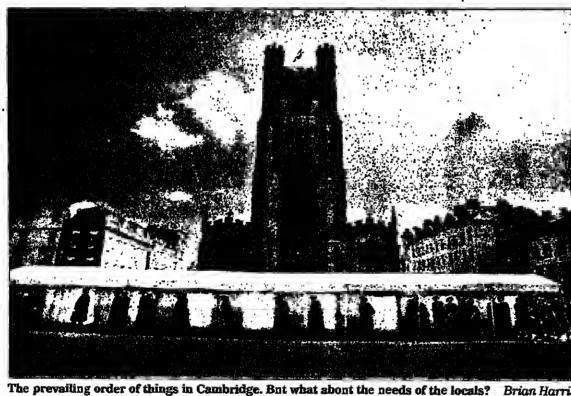
A two-bedroom terraced house in the oot-so-nice part of town is going for £100,000. Flats costing £160,000 or so are talked of in wonderment and horror, "It is almost as bad as London," they say, but in fact there is no "almost" about it.

Cambridge has brought this on itself. In the Fifties, the architect William Holford had the vision that Cambridge must keep itself special. It must not become humdrum. That meant no smokestacks, like dirty old Oxford, and no fringe development. The town has stayed true to the Holford Plan of 1951. Any newcomers who wanted to live in a reasonably priced family home were politely shown the way to a nice semi-detached out in the Fens. But not everyone obliged, and so bousing prices kept climbing and the social mix became more extreme.

"Only the very poor and the fairly rich can afford to live in Cambridge nowadays," says Alison Quant, a local county planner.

It has been a wonderful life, but will not be so for much longer. The Government has told Greater Cambridge that it needs to build 71,000 new homes in the next 20 years. This is a lot. Cambridge itself has only 45,000 oow. But everyone agrees that the boom must not turn to hust. The Phenomenon must not fail.

So where do you put the houses? Cambridge itself is full up. And so the big debate has begun. Last week's public consultation exercise attracted 23 people on the panel alone. Everyone agrees on one thing: Cambridge must not become Berkshire. This prospect is viewed with horror. There is there-



not a middle-class thing. This is a The prevailing order of things in Cambridge. But what about the needs of the locals? Brian Harris

fore talk of a New Town, or even two. There are always the Fens, of course, hut even one more commuter on top of the current 37,000 is too many. The green belt is truly in danger this time. "The green belt is not beautiful," snaps one businessmen. "It is bloody flat and boring!"

I drive through this flat, boring. beautiful land on my way in to Cambridge. You can tell where it ends, because the green turns to brown and there are diggers everywhere. Here a science park, there a factory. Every project is flagged up as something like "innovation". It feels rather American.

what is wrong and right with this town, and with good reason. Some, such as Trinity, are not just rich but fabulously so. They have taken the land given to them by one King Henry or another and done extremely well. Trinity developed the booming Science Park and St John's founded the Innovation Park

on land it has owned since 1534. In a neat trick, the colleges have become mini-development corporations, ancient institutions of learning and hugely influential landowners all at once. "There is no point in allocating land for building in west Cambridge. unless the colleges want to build on it,

\$20bn. I am taken aback by such astronomical figures and say that many people seem impressed enough by Cambridge as it is.

What about the Cambridge Pheno-

menon? "In the country of the blind, the one-eyed man is king," be says. Mr Hauser says no growth is simply unthinkable. Walter Herriot agrees. Ha is the manager of the Innovation Park, which is a launch-pad for new businesses. Mr Herriot says there are 20 millionaires on site as we speak. The ethos feels American in its studied casualness. Mr Herriot is not wearing a suit. He comes out to meet

'The universities have all the properties in Cambridge. They need to provide houses for the students. If somebody advertises a room, a student takes it. The ordinary, average working man has got no chance'

But only for an instant. Then I join the because they own it all," says Alison me. He makes his own coffee. He says traffic queue that is crawling towards the town centre. The roads get smaller as the architecture becomes more spectacular. It is claustrophobic. Soon arily, but everyone in this town, from it is like driving inside one of those ship-in-a-bottle things. There is nowhere to go: escape is always just another street away.

The next day I take the train there. The station is a good hike from the city centre and I'm told this is because the colleges did not want it any closer. When you own most of the land in the city centre - as the colleges do - you can decide such things. The colleges seem to get the blame for much of

Quant. All of it? She thinks for a they try to be as American as possible. moment. "Yes, except for a few bits." Planning is not a sexy topic ordin-

the richest venture capitalist to the poorest of men, talk of it with real passion. Hermann Hauser, the founder of Acorn Computers and the head of the Amadeus Fund, is positively aggressive about it all

He says that the graduates of Stanford University in California have generated business worth \$1 trillion MIT graduates can lay claim to half a trillioo hut Cambridge graduates would barely claim to have generated

It is a can-do country and Cambridge needs to be more can-do too. Mr Herriot wants another 37,000 new jobs here. He wants Cambridge to be the knowledge-based centre of Europe in the 21st century. And that means houses, sooner rather than later. The green belt, he says, is a noose.

Mr Herriot says that people whinge too much. He comes from Liverpool. Now there is a city that would love to have Cambridge's problems.

"If you went back to the 19th century and there were such controls then, the Industrial Revolution would

never have happened in the UK. So, at this point, we would have lost two world wars and would probably be a clothes off, paint ourselves blue and run around trying to attract others to see us in our rural idyll."

Michael Flood lives in a different Cambridge - a bedsit in the east of the city or, in fact, half a bedsit. I find him ferreting around in a rubbish bin in a little park just off St John's Street, in the heart of the ancient centre. He says he is looking for bread to feed to the birds, and will speak to me only if I give him £5. I agree.

Some tourists go by, who look as if they might take our picture. Mr Flood says he cannot work and is very ill, leukaemia being the worst of it. He looks worn beyond his 56 years. His eyes are rheumy. He has been on the council's housing list for five years. Once a day or so he has a meal for £1

at the charity Overstream House. Mr Flood says that housing is something that the poor and homeless often talk about over this meal. The ordinary working man cannot afford anywhere to live in Cambridge and that needs to change. He names some specific sites for housing, but then stops. "The universities have all the property in Cambridge," he says. They oced to provide houses for students. Where I live, if somebody advertises a room, a student takes it. The ordinary, average working man has got

no chance." Cambridge has to crack its "grow or die" problem, but so far there is too much talk and not enough sense. The surrounding necklace of villages are full of Nimby types and the towns-people simply feel lucky to have homes

that are worth a fortune. I oeed a wise man, and I find him in Professor Marcial Echenique, architect and professor. He formed Cambridge Futures at the request of the mayor and the vice-chancellor. Now it has produced a report showing seven different ways that Cambridge can grow; in each case the impact on the social mix, economy and environment are examined.

The only option that won't work at all, he maintains, is no growth. Then, he says, Cambridge will become a "Laura Ashley" town full of wealthy people who won't be able to get their shoes repaired. He sees the current dilemma as being just important as the

"It is crucial. Clearly the Government sees this as a test case. We could become a museum, or we could spoil the town with too much development. Or, if we are elever enough, we will find a combination that works." But, I say, surely Cambridge is full of clever people. He shrugs. "Yes, well that is what they claim.

I leave and get stuck in the traffic. I shrug. After all, it's just the Cambridge Phenomenon.

POETIC LICENCE

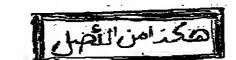
OLD WAR STORIES BY MARTIN NEWELL

The German Culture Minister, Mr Michael Naumann, claims that we British are obsessed with the War. He says: "There is only one nation in the world that has decided to make the Second World War a sort of spiritual core of its national



Perhaps the ancient films on daytime telly Drip-feed the small obsession to us still The little ships, the sirens and the shelters The "Crikey. Bertie's bought it!" of it all. The cheery WAAFs with Elstree Studio accents Who did their bit and waited for the planes Wore frocks off-duty, stockings, bright-red lipstick Then married men called Charlie, Les or Ron. Who settled down in semis, flats and prefabs With furniture marked CC forty-ooe And spawned a brood of adenoidal rockers Their pimply ingrate sons with red guitars Who'd learned the war from Hotspur, Combat Library Victory At Sea and Sergeant Rock. Wing Commander Gibson, Airfix Spitfires Take that, squarehead!' 'Gott in Himmel!' 'Aargh!' Perhaps that's all we had, the jokes and memories Like shells ploughed up on farmland, old barbed wire To compensate for six years requisitioned; A nationalised Valhalla of our own...

Until the British beat groups toured the bases And pensioners took boat-trips up The Rhine And businessmen flew twice a week to Stuttgart And brickies married nurses from Cologne And hikers went to Bierfests near to Munich And ravers went for weekends in Berlin And councillors to Hamburg on exchange trips To study housing, transport or design. And then the thing was over - but it wasn't. The punchline still remains, without the joke And hangs there like a catchphrase from a gameshow Which no-one can remember any more. Perhaps it's just a tatty family heirloom A thing kept in a corner in the hall That's trundled in for birthdays, then forgotten Redundant now but ganz gemütlich still Achtung then Fritz. For you der var is ofer. The same for us... although you'd never tell. The reason we're still laughing is - it's stupid And stupid is a thing we do quite well.



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A STATE OF STREET

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Prick up your ears

Channel 4 gay romp drama shock! (So say the tabloids.) But what's all the fuss about? By James Rampton

review tapes for Queer as Folk, C4's new gay drama, were kept under strict lock and key until the press screening last week. When I was finally allowed to watch them, I could see why. Within the first few minutes, a 29-year-old man is bedding a 15year-old boy after a mere handful of words have passed between them. The three main characters, who frequent The Scene in Manchester's "gay village", proceed to dis-cuss and perform sexual practices that are far too shocking to recount, even in such a broad-minded newspaper as The Independent.

It came as no surprise. The day I was on the set of Queer as Folk in Manchester last autumn, the call-sneer made of eyebrow-raising reading. Under the heading "special requirements" was a request for what during Kenneth Starr's examination of Monica Lewinsky's blue dress was euphemistically called "bodily fluid". From that moment I knew that this series was going to incense the tabloids.

Sure enough, the predictable popularpress firestorm engulfed Queer as Folk. The Daily Mail furned that the programme was "consistent with [C4] controller Michael Jackson'a mission to flout the boundaries of taste and decency", while The Daily Star went with the fetchingly simple headline: "EastBenders." Further gasoline was thrown on to the flames when C4 mooted that the final word of the title might have been a rather stronger fourletter word beginning with F.

But is this drama really worth getting so hot under the collar about? After all nobody gives two hoots about openly gay cabinet ministers nowadays. And when even The Sun declares that homosexuality among public figures should no longer be an issue, aren't we grown-up enough to say the same should apply to characters in a fictional TV series? Surely we have ad-Janced since the era when gay figures like John Inman's Mr Humphries in Are You Being Served? - could be portrayed on television only in outrageous "coded" stereotypes. After all, we are now sufficiently mature to accept overtly gay characters in both soaps (Anna Friel in Brookside) and sitcoms (James Dreyfuss in Gimme, Gimme, Gimme).

Sitting in his caravan between takes, Craig Kelly-the actor who plays Vince, one of the three leads in Queer As Folk-thinks that in the late Nineties we should be able to make our own decisions about want to watch.

"I know the papers feel the subject matter is risqué, but I don't know why they feel threatened by it, because people don't have to watch it if it's not their cup of tea."

Over lunch in the catering-bus, the writer and co-producer of Queer as Folk, Russell T Davies, ascribes the tabloid frothing at the mouth to nothing more complex than good old-fashioned prejudice.
"There's such fear in homophobie

people. You want to do pop psychology on them: Did some dirty old man lean over your pram?' It's primeval, and nn amount of nice gay characters on EastEnders will ever shift that stuff."

Further than that, he can't really see what all the fuss is about.



'Queer as Folk': just another 'This Life' but with better dress sense

"They're never going to watch this anyway. And what is so wrong with sex? At the moment we've gnt an argument about on Channel 4. Sex is always a selling-point whether or not we can show sperm. You can show blood on Casualty. Where would

All the same, not every viewer may welcome its appearance, even at 10.30pm -particularly in this ratings-obsessed age - and deep down the producers of Queer contends that sex is a mere distraction -

"Look at me, I'm shaking with fear about the Daily Mail," he roars with laughter vellous substance in nature." as Folk must be thinking that any public-tity is good publicity. But, beyond the hysity is good publicity. But, beyond the hysteria about homosexuality, this is just another hip-cut drama about twenty-something urban sophisticates, a sort of This Life with even better dress-sense. Kelly

there are only theree sex scenes in eight episodes - and that viewers should not get hung up about it.

"The piece may surprise people because it's a slice of life ah out characters who happen to be gay: normal people with normal lives. There isn't anything that different from the straight world. It's not a bizarre. alien universe. We can all relate to the search for love and friendship."

Davies underlines that his intention was

to write a drama, not a "gay drama". "I was adamant: that there would be nn 'issue stories'. Sor neone once said tn me: 'Isn't it fantastic that there's a gay nurse in Cosualty?' and I said: 'Nn' Gay characters invariably walk in with a subplot on their heads - 'Ooh, I've got Aids; ooh, I want to be a gay parent.' They do not exist as three-dimensional people. When he writes, Jimmy McGovern is thinking about anger and emotion rather than issues."

Nor does Davie-s feel obliged to wave a political banner on behalf of gay people. "Do I go out to a gay pub to be militant?

No, I sit there and say: 'Have you had him?' I just wanted to write a story which has the rhythms of everyday life. Drama lies in your friend not turning up for your party; not in someone being be aten up. In the past, drama involving gays had to include bi-sexual heroin addicts and lesbian vicars. Now two people having a cup of tea is dramatic enough."

The writer, who is also responsible for The Grand, Touching Evil and Revelations on ITV, has an equal borror of the idea that gay characters should be "representative" of a whole community.

"That's just worthy. Who the hell wants their drama to be representative? That comes from the dull and sanctimonious desire to 'do the right thing'. Writers who think: 'I must represent blind lesbians,' are on to a loser. Every other episode of Casualty is like that. People didn't say about Cracker: Does Fitz represent Scotland, or overweight people?' All they said was: 'He's a brilliant character,' The word 'representation' shouldn't enter the discussion of drama."

In this respect, the figure of Colin in EastEnders 10 years ago, who was the first openly gay character in a mainstream drama, has a lot to answer for

"He set a terrible precedent because every gay character on TV since has been a pale version of Colin," says Davies. "Have you ever seen a good scene between Simon and Tony in East Enders? They have no character – they te just gay, why can t they make gay characters as strong as the Mitchells? Things must move on." If shows such as Queer as Folk continue to be commissioned, maybe they will.

For all his evident enthusiasm about the series. Davies is concerned that it doesn't lead to him being ghetto ised.

"I don't want to be tagged as a 'gay writer'. That might limit nay work. My agent phoned the other day and said: 'It's starting. You've been offered a job writing a 30minute animation about a dinosaur who comes out. I could not say 'nn' fast enough." Then in a wry nod at the tablnids, he adds with a grin: "I hope it's not Barney - the kids might be shocked."

'Queer as Folk' starts Tue s, C4, 10.30pm

Better by design

DANCE

JEREMY JAMES & COMPANY THE PLACE THEATRE LONDON

CONTEMPORARY DANCE audiences know Jeremy James well; a neat, darting figure, always there, performing for the best companies -Ramhert, Sinhhan Davies, DV8. Now 37, he has suddenly become elusive and was not physically present un the Place Theatre stage, although his influence was everywhere. Jeremy James & Company, founded in 1993, is devnted to his reincarnation as a choreographer. His programme, showing in London as part of a lunger tnur, was deemed stylish enough to open the city's annual "Spring Loaded" showcase for the newer reaches of British dance.

James has clearly learnt important lessons from the chorcographers he has worked with. He has a sharp eye for form and pattern, and makes exacting demands on his five dancers, creating hyper-articulate movement for its own sake, like a painter revelling in the possibilities of line and colour.

In the absence of narrative, we look for a clue to underlying intention in a piece's title. We begin with a female trin called Juice, which offers no help. The dancing has a flamboyant mobility perhaps even a "juiciness" - the body dislocated into separate segments that twist and hiccup. There is a pleasing structural clarity operating on the principle of enlargement: the piece begins with a snlo in silence for Tammy Arjona, adds a second dancer and the sound of a pencil on paper, and then the third dancer and some rock music.

Especially pleasing is James's sense of group design, the dance spreading in contrasted striations, collecting in flickering clusters and forming blocks where thrusts and parries slnt into each other. In Parts, these textures coexist with Matteo Sargion's obsessive piano phrases, repeated over and over as if someone were practising each hand separately. Once or twice, the hands seem to merge to produce a brief passage of tantalising complexity. And that seems to summarise James's piece: an ambitious juxtaposition of disparate parts, including abstract film projections, that compete for your attention, hut sometimes gel together into a satisfying completeness.

with some invisible advancing force, shrinking away from it, then retaliating with pushes. Peter Morris's score switches disconcertingly from uncomfortable, tingling electronic filaments to Fifties dance-band music. The splendidly-named Ursula Bombshell dresses the dancers in baggy trousers that explain, at least superficially, the equally splendid title. Is there a further significance? Perhaps James is a tease rather than a mere puzzle. He certainly gives the impression of a conscientious, not a careless mind. Everything is carefully moulded and polished, producing a sophistication that I was not expecting.

NADINE MEISNER

Somebody be outrageous. Quick

NO IMPROMPTU cold showers, no pop star derrières, not so much as a flying egg. Even with the generous array of targets at Tuesday night's Brits, including Cher, Cherie, Mo Mowlam and Whitney, the most controversial moment arrived when The Corrs were declared superior to REM and ono said "bollocks".

ceremomes have seen the Deputy Prime Minister doused with the contents of an ice hucket by Chumbawamba's Danbert Nobacon, and Michael Jackson's ego hruised by the sight of Jarvis Cocker's behind. To avoid any further calamity, this year's event was so rigorously organised that every drop of atmosphere seemed to have been ushered out of the auditorium along with the hangers-on.

The difficulties that faced

POP BRIT AWARDS LONDON ARENA

potential pranksters were manifold. First, they were up against a wall of security that would have made Parkhurst look like a holiday camp. At least two beefy men covered The last two years award head to toe in gadgetry eremomes have seen the guarded each lamp-lit table.

They seemed more concerned about errant celebrities than fans, since it took three of them to usher the pint-sized Kylie Minogue hack to her place. To quell any political rallying, the New Labour contingent was seated well out of harm's way, though Boy George still entreated them to "leave our vegetables alone".

And would the audience have noticed anyway? Most of them seemed more concerned

with who was scoffing the volau-vents than with whn was winning prizes. The only real enthusiasm seemed to come from the competition-winners, who occasionally managed to outdn the canned applause

with their squealing.

Juhnny Vaughan did his best to spice up the proceedings, despite the fact that his carefully honed script had been stolen from his car the night before. His gentle ribbing sometimes bordered on rude particularly when he hinted that Celine Dion resembled a certain part of a bus. With teen acts dominating

the charts, the organisers were clearly at a loss as to what to do with them all. A brainwave arrived in the form of an anodyne "Abba medley" in which Steps, B'witched, Billie and Cleopatra cavorted about



Andrew Buurman

were presumably intended to Fatboy Slim, aka Nnrman evoke the Seventies. Disappointingly, Boyzone got a slot to being awarded the best dance themselves as they grinned their way through Billy Ocean's saying: "Speechless", and "When the Going Gets Tough." stalked off in stience. Des-"When the Going Gets Tough." Some stars struggled to

hide their disdain when they

Cook, took the podium after act, he waved a piece of paper perate not to he upstaged, Robbie Williams later held up the stage in panto outfits that collected their prizes. As a sign saying: "Legless", as he

But the evening was not without its emotional moments. Seeing Bono weaving his way between the tables to present an award to the former world heavyweight champion Mohammed Ali for his contribution to the Drop The Deht campaign hronght a genuine lump to the throat. And Cher, jiggling to her techno-inspired "Do You Believe" and surrounded by lookalike dancers, was enough to make your eyes water.

picked up his second award.

The climax of the show was when Stevie Wonder joined the lifetime achievers Eurythmics to perform a hotch-potch of their Eighties hits. But despite their best efforts to look hip, Lennox and Stewart's Union Jack suits were no match for Ginger Spice's patriotic get-up of two years ago.

Still teenage after all these years

Charming if tasteless comedy There's Something About Mary did more than just bring sperm as hair gel and stalking jokes into the comedy main-Jonathan Richman, Boston's nasal poet of love and loss and matters teenage, to the public eye after too long away, as he punctuated the plot with wise

snippets of song. With a new album of his gently swinging acoustic folk I'm So Confused due out next week and three sold-out nights

POP JONATHAN RICHMAN JAZZ CAFÉ

stream. It also restored at the Jazz Café - a swanky sort of concrete box where the glasses really are made of glass - his career is back on track. Deservedly so. Tuesday night'a show, just Richman and the stand-up drummer Tommy Larkins - a curiously Bronsonesque figure in drainpipes - was wonderful. The

LONDON

a touching tribute to the world's favourite plank of wood in which Richman attempted to emulate great stylists (and hearing someone copy the surf guitar hero Dick Dale on an acoustic guitar will not soon be forgotten), to

the concluding a cappella "Arrivederci Roma". In between, he told jokes, repeatedly put down his guitar to dance erratically (always to huge cheers), mugged like Roberto Benigni, and generally charmed in a way unlikely crowd adored him, from the

opener "Fender Stratocaster", in a forty-something man an easily embarrassed English hyperactive teenager, all to Larkins' pounding beat.

Richman's apparent naïveté has long been part of the act, but his new songs seemed more like advice from an elder brother, "True Love Is Not Nice" is an incisive dissection of painfully explicable behaviour, though "Love Me Like I Love", with its plaintive complaint "when I was six years old/ I never dreamed I would grow up to feel isolated"

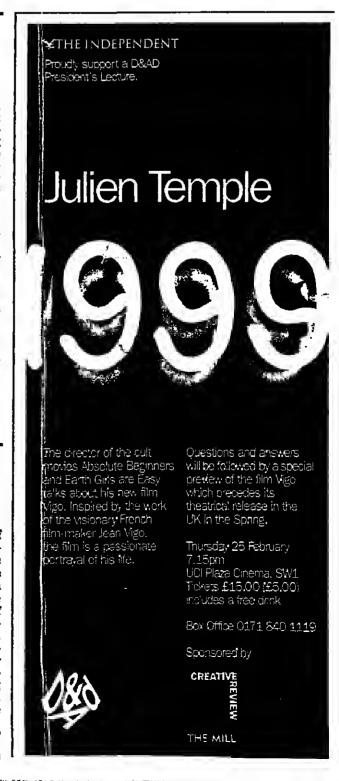
given to behaving like a audience. The lovely "I Can Hear Her Fighting With Herself", and the hilarious "Nineteen In Naples", with its wonderful talkover: "I'm checking in the pensione, it's 2am... the Italian guys are playing poker in their underwear... I'll never forget that",

became instant favourites. . Older songs such as "Pablo Picasso", introduced by a workout far funkier than a drummer and one guitarist have any right to be, the knowing "Give Paris One More proved an emotion too far for

Try", and even a snippet of "Egyptian Reggae" (Richman's biggest UK hit, more than 20 years ago) were equally good, with the high spot his touching tribute to the Velvet Underground. Even if his comic Lou Reed impression did sound like Bob Dylan.

Great stuff. A room full of reserved adults, straining under responsibilities and malepattern baldness, singing along to the chorus "I was dancing in the Lesbian Bar" was a fine sight. He's very special.

STEVE JELBERT



FIIM

The father of all battles

THE BIG PICTURE



ANTHONY QUINN

AFFLICTION (1S) DIRECTOR: PAUL SCHRADER STARRING: NICK NOLTE. JAMES COBURN, SISSY SPACEK. WILLEM DAFOE 113 MINUTES

n Paul Schrader's majestically sombre film Affliction, Nick Nolte gives a performance of such rage and sorrow the screen seems hardly big enough to contain him. Nolte has hinted at this brutish grandeur before - as the painter in Martin Scorsese's segment of New York Stories, for instance - hut this time he truly turns himself inside out for the cause. He plays Wade Whitehouse, a hulking traffic cop in a small, snowbound New Hampshire town where everybody knows each other's business. It's a place blasted not just by snow and wind but by the possibility of extinction – developers want to turn the area into a ski resort.

That possibility only gradually occurs to Wade, who's got problems of his own to worry about. His ex-wife has gone stone cold on him, and seems to be turning their daughter the same way; he's signed up a lawyer he can't afford to sort out custody. His mother has just died in the house his father (James Coburn) is too senile to keep warm. He makes anxious long-distance phonecalls to his brother Rolfe (Willern Dafoe), who managed to escape their small town years ago. And, to cap it all, Wade has a lulu of a toothache. Whether aursing a beer at the local bar or lumbering gracelessly through the streets, he has the air of a man desperate to believe he can still make something of his life.

Adapting from the novel by Russell Banks, Schrader sets up what appears to

Nick Nolte in 'Affliction'; it's not often that one sees vulnerability so delicately entwined with volcanic anger

learning that the dead man was a union bigwig he begins to suspect that a real-estate conspiracy is afoot. His brother supports this theory. All of Wade's confused resentment and paranoia start heating up as he becomes convinced of wrongdoing in

investigates as a matter of routine; on sion of Chinatown, it turns inward rather ing into the same monster as his father. than outward: its real subject is the damaged psychology - the spiritual toothache - of Wade himself. Grainy flashbacks recount how he and Rolfe were tyrannised by their violent drunk of a father, who tells them. "You'll thank me for this one day. boys" (telltale words of the self-justifying user). We come to realise that Wade is

It's understandable why Schrader cares so passionately about this material. He and Dutch Calvinist parents whose religious orthodoxy went hand-in-hand with a near-Easy Riders, Raging Bulls, Leonard recalled how their father used to whip him man dies in a hunting accident, which Wade as it looks poised to be a snow-blinded ver- at war with his genes; he's terrified of turn- six or seven times a week. Whatever scars ghosted around New York like a lost soul and holds.

the experience left on the younger Schrader, it also gave him his subject; the agony of men - fathers, brothers, husbands his older brother Leonard were raised by struggling to overcome their violent instincts. His scriptwriting on Taxi Driver and Raging Bull is well documented, yet sadistic bent; in Peter Biskind's recent book I think his greatest work was the underrated Light Sleeper, a mysterious, intimate something deeper than a small-town

from Dante. Dafoe's role as narrator in Affliction is less satisfactory, and points up the film's slightly stilted literariness; why does he relate Wade's story in this detached, over-deliberate manner? By the end one may have worked out an answer to the question, but the dispassionate tone seems prissy, and even rather sinister, from a man who purports to love his brother.

Despite the awkwardness of this framing device, the film is kept alive by the immensely powerful grip of Nick Nolte's performance. It's not often one sees vulnerability so delicately entwined with volcanic anger. With his pinprick eyes and DIY haircut, Wade has the not-too-bright look of the town's chief sad case, yet he seems well-liked by its folk. He just doesn't quite get people. His galumphing efforts at tenderness towards his daughter suddenly . cloud over into moroseness, and we sense how deeply he is afflicted by lack of understanding; he's willing, indeed desperate, to love, yet there's something badly askew in his emotional responses. Whenever we see him tense up in his father's preseoce, lines from Larkin toli insistently: "Man hands on misery to man' It deepens like a coastal shelf." As Nolte's performance builds, the similarities between father and son take on a tragic inevitability. (Wade's peculiar habit of licking a dab of salt from the back of his hand is a direct imitation of his old man.) "I shoulda froze," says Coburn as he looks upon his dead wife, not realising that his sons' patrimony has been one big chill.

American cinema is strewn with studies of anguished father-son conflicts, yet few have brought the same depth and intricacy to the task as Schrader and Nolte do here. Any disappointment over Affliction refusing to become the detective story it seems to promise is eclipsed by a feeling that this unpredictable director has delivered a valuable and complex work of art. The film's most memorable image is of Wade sitting alone in his kitchen, while through the window, in full view, a barn is abiaze. It contrasts the stillness of an Edward Hopper with the molten fury of a mind in meltdown.

The patience and exactness of Schrader's storytelling, and the commitment of a fine cast that includes Sissy Spacek as Wade's defeated girlfriend, lend the movie film in which Willem Dafoe's drug dealer tragedy-it's a wintry fatalism that haunts

ALSO SHOWING

THIS YEAR'S LOVE DAVID KANE (18) HOLY MAN STEPHEN HEREK (PG) TO FOREIGN LAND WALTER SALLES/DANIELA THOMAS (NC)



GREAT THINGS are expected of This Year's Love, a Camden-set comedy that entangles its gifted Anglo-Scots cast in a cat's-cradle of pairings and partings. First up the aisle are tattoo-artist Danny (Douglas Henshall) and clothes designer Hannah (Catherine Mc-Cormack), though married bliss evaporates before the cake has been cut when Danny discovers his bride has recently bonked the best man. Their split ushers in a ronde of bed-hopping and partnerswapping: there's Cameron (Dougray Scott), a philandering artist so unwashed you could grow mushrooms on him; there's Sophie (Jennifer Ehle), a self-loathing trustafarian and single mum; Marey (Kathy Burke), a hopeful club singer and self-styled "fat hird"; and Liam (Ian Hart), a nerdy Liverpudlian romantic with a vulnerable streak. Divided into three one-year

segments, David Kane's film ponders the impermanence of love and the comedy of happenstance. Its unfront way with sex and relationships – the conviction that it's some-how "telling it like it is" – has already won comparisons with the cult soap This Life. The obvious difference is that our attitudes to the This Life ensemble were changed and deepened over a period of weeks: we felt as though we were getting to know them. At feature length, on the other hand, time is at a premium, and the possibilities of character development are limited Nuance is hlunted as months are concertinaed into minutes.

Yet the film's failure to emulate a cult soap can't be used as the stick to beat it with. This Yeor's Love has larger problems in script and scope prob-lems that afflict all British romantic comedies to oce degree or another. I think it's the effort to be simultaneously cute and streetwise that undoes it, particularly when the tone darkens in the latter half. While you may ascribe the

counters to romantic licence, makes this sleazeball huckster benefit of the doubt is sharply withdrawn coce Liam tries to commit suicide after finding Hannah in bed with another woman. (He must be the only 30-year-old man in London who's never heard of a lesbian before.) Abortion and mental illness rub shoulders uneasily with domestic violence and class snobbery, yet they're never anything more than pitstops on the route to the big romantic set-piece we've seen coming a mile off. In other words, it's this year's try for the Four Weddings jackpot. The case of Eddie Murphy

is a curious one. What other actor has turned in a blistering début (43 Hours, back in 1983), dooe almost nothing of worth



office success? The best you can say of his performance in Holy Man is that it's not an embarrassment. He plays G, an itinerant seeker who's discovered oo a Miami roadside by Ricky (Jeff Goldblum), a TV shopping-channel executive whose career is on the slide. In a desperate bid to halt his slump, Ricky puts his new friend on air, and suddenly the holy man's beatific patter is racking up the sales.

For a while it seems that Holy Man intends to satirise the imbecility of American consumerism. In fact, the film is just another soft-centred redemption-through-love story as comely executive Kate (Kelly Preston) tries to show Ricky the error of his exploitative ways.

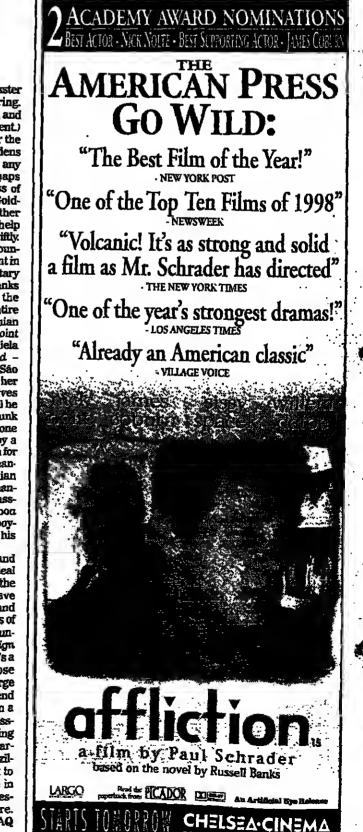
Goldhlum, who knows a thing or two about squandering his talent, starts off in

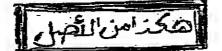
appealing, even endearing. (His true metter is slime, and I mean that as a compliment.) Once the film reaches for the moral high ground it deadens his comic rhythms; he's any old sap in a suit. Perhaps recognising the lameness of the script, Murphy and Gold-blum have some fun together ad-libbing, but it doesn't help

the time pass any more swiftly. Pity poor Brazil. The country elects its first president in 1990 after 30 years of military dictatorship and he thanks them hy confiscating the saving accounts of the entire population. This Draconian measure - the starting-point of Walter Salles and Daniela Thomas's Foreign Land causes one old woman in São Paulo to expire, leaving her son Paco (Fernando Alves Pinto) to organise a funeral he can scarcely afford. Drunk and disconsolate in a bar one night, he is approached by a stranger willing to pay him for a courier job to Lisbon. Meanwhile, a young Brazilian woman named Alex (Fernanda Torres) is selling her passport to crooks in a Lisbon café, while her junkie boyfriend gets in deep with his

underworld confrères. Shot in inky black and white, the film is a good deal more entertaining than the publicity notes would have you believe ("Racism... and the universal hopelessness of a whole generation are the underlying themes of Foreign Land". Blimey!). In fact, it's a melodrama of exile whose plotlines eventually converge and gather speed; by the end I was happily enthralled in a tenebrous thriller of crosscountry chases and leering villains. Whether this spearheads a renaissance in Brazilian film-making is difficult to say (it was actually made in 1995), but there's an impressive confidence at work here.

All films on general release





Rebel with a cause

Sean Penn no longer beats up journalists. That was just a phase he was going through. But he's still at war with the fraudulence of Hollywood. By Sarah Gristwood

publicity, Sean Penn has a knack for getting in the papers. On the one hand, there's his long-standing threat of giving up acting, this time reissued at the moment when he has five new films about to open here. On the other there's the current row over the private jet he demanded to promote Terrence Malick's The Thin Red Line, which so memorably saw him labelled a "perk pig".

That cap seems hardly to fit. Penn is reputed to have done the part for only \$300,000 (well below what he could command) and possibly some profits. He pointed out to Fox that the price of the jet represented only "one hair on Mr Rupert Murdoch's formidable ass".

But to be fair, he can err on the side of painful. In the Elghties, when he was married to Madonna, he used to beat up journalists and, less forgivably, extras. When Penn's Malibu house hurnt down in 1993 he set up home in a 27ft Airstream trailer with a few guns ("fun things"), and photos of Hemingway and Charles Bukowski. But the rebel lifestyle seems to be fading. After a long off/on relationship with the actress Robin Wright, they have a stable marriage with two children heading for its third year, and a base in San Francisco with Penn's production company.

He's now polite and restrained in interview, literate if convoluted. He has a surprisingly vivid physical presence, with a teddy boy quiff of bair and intense blue eyes above the bulky nose. And the small, bitter mouth beneath the moustache smiles more readily than it used to. Is it fair to say he seems happier?

"It's always been there, it's just a question of recognising it. There was a time when I didn't realise what was making me sad and nauseous." He quickly turns the talk away from himself. His fight was always with "the fraudulent nature of popular optimism", as exemplified in the Hollywood movie.

His kind of movies are quite different. One of the first we'll see is Loved, a delicate, harrowing piece starring his wife, and written and directed by her friend Erin Dig-

OWILD:

en in a state of

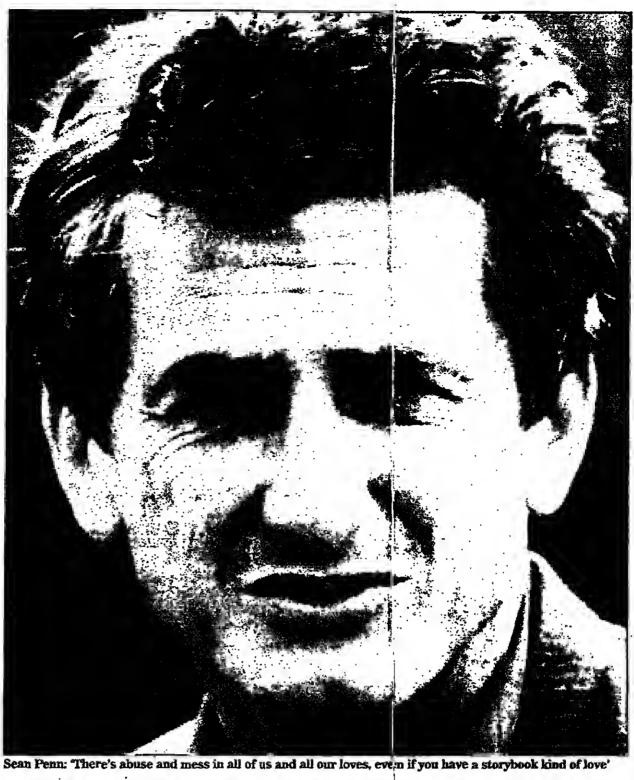
or an actor who dislikes nam. Penn has a cameo role as a lone loon who demands to be hugged by William Hurt's lawyer. The part was written in after the film was edited - "a scene meant to be understood at the end of the film, but that sets the boundaries of what its interests are". He also acted as unofficial fixer for the project, coming in at post-production stage when Dignam was in difficulty. Loved is a film about love and abuse .

"but much more about love". Robin Wright Penn plays the survivor of a relationship the outside world would call abusive but which she sees differently. "There's abuse and mess in all of us and all our loves," Penn says. "Even if you have a storybook kind of love then the world will abuse you and it. We don't want to acknowledge that side of things hecause of recent gender politics
-but you can't follow that theory all the way. Otherwise you're going to say that every Italian marriage for the last 200 years had no love in it because the guy yelled at his wife, or slapped her once. Ridiculous."

Such belligerence seems slightly at odds with the film itself, which complicates, rather than rejects, "recent gender politics". But no matter "The average movie," continues Penn excitedly, "presents a romance that lasts five days and implies that's the only kind that matters. You go outside from this film that has titillated your senses and you feel cold and lonely because it has no connection with your life and you." I tell him he sounds so angry. Does it do him any good?

"Fear, rage and guilt are things people can jump into very quickly," he admits. Then gets a little enigmatic. "If there's something in your life that's real hard to face head on - and too immediate not to face at all - sometimes you make the wrong choice and then get hooked on it. When Eric Clapton's kid went out of the window, I chucked all the bottles and started writing [the script for The Crossing Guard]. It was a real wake-up call. When it happened, I just felt you don't know how comfortable it is to have your child alive until your child is dead."

In Hurlyburly, an "emotional Ar-mageddon" based on David Rabe's 1984 play, Penn gives a notable performance as a coked-out wannabe agent. According to



The New York Times, the film proposes that "the war between men and women is only an offshoot of a larger and more deadly war. the one waged by men against them-selves". (That could be Penn's obituary.)

Hurlyburly is yet another film Penn made with his wife. "She has a kind of weight no one else that beautiful has. And

Are you going to say every Italian marriage has no love in it because the guy slapped her once?

it happens we're roughly the same age, so we can play opposite each other easily." But like Loved and their other projects together -The Crossing Guard (Penn's second directorial effort) and She's So Lovely-it was mind. Does Penn think it's important that American cinema should include the kind of film Hollywood won't finance readily?

"I don't approach it in that way. I'm not and today be'll admit it. "I slipped into a political within the film industry. I do the bloodbath - but there's not too many things that make sense to me and most films I see make no sense to me at all.' Ask He frowns. "But I'd rather be writing and him to name one that does and he says Warren Beatty's Bulworth. Beatty says Penn doesn't really want to give up ac ting, he'd just 'like to give up the thought of makgot on badly), he's about to direct anothing the hrand of picture that opens big on er of his own projects: a road trip reputa Friday night". It's true that Penn first made that threat in 1991 and then weight on to do Carlito's Way and Dead Man V Valking, so you can't take it too seriously:

But Penn once said to me that the difference between directing and acting; was "the difference between being a car penter banging nails into a piece of wood, and being the piece of wood the nails are banged into".

"Where some actors have a craft, I have a set of works. An eyedropper with a needle on it, a spoon, and a rubber hose to tie off your arm. The first time you do heroin conspicuously not made with box office in it's heaven but eventually you botton a out, and that's what happened to me." I lidn't it satisfy him in any way? "Financiality."

The Thin Red Line' and 'Loved' both open You can't believe that's the whole truth, on 26 February

things, too.

movies that in hindsight I'm not glad I did."

directing. I am that cliche." After Up at the

Villa (an adaptation of a Somerset Maugh-

edly starring Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder

Meanwhile, as an actor he has had the part

up an example of his cussedness - discuss

the film before he'd seen it, but he is extraordinary as Sergeant Welsh, the cyni-

cal backbone to a group of army grunts

bonding during the Battle of Guadalcanal

His face alone is surely Oscar-worthy: all

the weight of the world on his hooded eyes.

It's not just Malick's visual lyricism. At 38,

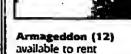
Penn finally is growing into his cranky

looks. Perhaps growing into a lot of other

Penn wouldn't - and this has been held

of a lifetime in The Thin Red Line.

VIDEO WATCH



BRUCE WILLIS and his band of oil drillers set about the destruction of an enormous earth-bound meteor, but don't move to the edge of your seat just yet. Michael Bay's gaudy, exhausting actioner trades in suspense for cartoon guffaws very early on. And the hokier it gets, the more you're prepared to forgive it. The CGt meteor storms are far too convincing. Much better is the design of the meteor itself which the Blue Peter team might have been responsible for.

The crew are one-dimensional. even by Hnllywood standards. And the testosterone leaks into the film's deliriously stupid subplot. Willis's character can't face up to the burgeoning sexuality of his daughter, Liv Tyler. How does the screenplay resolve this? It has him shove his big drill down the biggest female on screen, the meteor herself. Boys, as Freud once quipped, will be boys.

Walkabout (12) available to buy £9.99 REMARKABLY, THIS is the first time that Nic Roeg's masterpiece has been released on video and. nearly 30 years on, its Outback landscape looks more alien than ever. Their father having shot himself, schoolgiri Jenny Agutter and Lucien John, her little brother, wander from oasis to rocky outcrop . A young Aboriginal boy comes across them. He's on a walkabout. his ritual initiation into manhood, and it's the subsequent attention to adolescent sexuality, along with the striking photography, that stands up. Roeg's comparisons between sterile Western society and Aboriginal elemental existence, however, don't pack the same punch they did.

Metropolitan (PG) available to buy £5.99 IN METROPOLITAN - the 1989 debut of director Whit "The Last Days of Disco" Stillman - the action rarely strays from the pavements and drawing-rooms of Manhattan, but his literate, witty script populates both with young characters as complex and bright as they are gauche and selfdeluding. Jane Austen, as repeated references to the writer make clear, is Stillman's touchstone, but he's not heavyhanded about it. His plain direction strikes a tone of razor-sharp yet affectionate satire, a deft balance the cast manage, too.

Blame Spielberg, not me

David Cronenberg's latest is typically extreme. But just look at the competition, he says. By Geoffrey Macnab



"COMPARED WITH Saving Private Ryan, you think this is extreme?" This was director David Cronenberg's response to one squeamish journalist who suggested that eXistenZ (which had its world première in Berlin earlier this week) might be too much for US audiences to stomach.

Cronenberg had a point, really. Spielberg showed soldiers with their guts spilling out, and was praised for revealing war "as it really happened". Cronenberg does something similar and is immediately vilified

eXistenZ starts from the premise that humans have evolved a new organic game which they can download into their nervous systems. Cronenberg pointed out that this is not as outlandish as it may seem: whether by tattoos or by piercing, even the earliest societies attempted to change their bodies.

Despite some macabre imagery - for instance, a gun made out of human bones which uses teeth for bullets and much shoving of strange objects into orifices - eXistenZ is unlikely to provoke anything

Crash did. This is Cronenberg at his most playful. Neither the audience nor the characters in the film know where reality ends and the game begins. They can take the movie on an existential level ("You're born into a world whose rules you do not know," Cronenberg proclaimed during Tuesday's press conference), or simply enjoy it as a

surreal comedy in the vein of David Fincher's The Game. With its air of distorted reality, eXistenZ is a remarkably apt film to be showing at the

like the controversy that Berlin Film Festival The twoweek loog event has witnessed a bizarre collision between Hollywood hype and selfconscious European artistry. This year, the lines have been blurred by a series of Hollywood movies that are more radical and inventive than

> Prime among these is Alan Rudolph's wildly inventive adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut's satirical novel Breakfast of Champions. Bruce Willis, who financed the film, is a long-time fan of the book: "It reflects a lot of the hunacy which exists in the States."

Despite being one of Hollywood's highest-paid stars. Willis claims not to be "that challenged by the larger hudget films I do ... It's only in the independent field that actors are really allowed to act". Hence his decision to play a character as unhinged as Dwayne Hoover, Midland City's car salesman extra- Breakfast of Champions and ordinaire. Somehow, you just exist enZ) is wonderfully perdon't expect to see Willis as a neurotic, middle-aged man on the edge of a nervons hreakdown, hut his performance is a revelation.

Nick Nolte is equally striking as Hoover's assistant, a strapping businessman who likes to dress in slinky red lingerie and high heels in his spere time. Noite was allowed to design his own dress for the film. According that film. Accepting that he was flat-chested ("and I didn't want to get silicon implants"), Noite went for the "Phoenidress back to front. "My line wobl bled off into the night.

will the out this fall," he joked. Rudolph is known as a style at who makes intelligent, leisu rely paced movies in the Altm an mould. In Breakfast of Char pions he goes haywire. The film may often be uneven. but i t's as brazen a satire on modern American society as their European counterparts. you could wish to see.

Equally eccentric, albeit muci i more lugubrious, was Aki Kaurismaki's feature. Juha (which also had its world prentière in Berlin.) It's the first full-length silent movie since: Mel Brooks made his illadvis ed attempt at Mack Sennett-style slapstick, 1976's Silen't Movie.

Krjurismaki is a director in the Flassbinder mould. When he was introduced to the andicence following Juha's screening,most could smell the heer on his breath. He is alleged to have made the film drunk and edited it sober Whattever else, Juha (like versee. Like all his films, it is shot in such deadpan style that it takes some time to work: out whether it is a trage dy or a comedy. Kaurismaki seems to have been inspire d in equal measure by Soviest-style social realism (there are lots of shots of tract ors, spanners and farm

As ked why he made the film as a silent, Kaurismaki repli ed in typically gnomic fashi on that people "talk too cian" look by wearing the much". Then he fell quiet and

shakespeare got a posthumous oscar?;)) live webscussions nowww in progress www.friendfactory.co.uk rant and rave for free ACADEMY AWARD Nominations SERVICE BISCORD CLOR BISE WHOM "A REMARKABLE FILM. IT'S BRAVE, IMAGINATIVE AND ALMOST UNBEARABLY MOUNG." 'BENIGNI IS BRILLIANT, THE FILM IS FANTASTIC. "WONDERFUL" PE 0 --NOW SHOWING AT SELECTED CINEMAS

((cisn't it about time

Croneuberg: being playful ****** "excruciatingly funny... insanely real...astonishing" ซักนี้ friends&neighbors.

Working round the clock

Today's employees are having to adapt as the 24-hour society draws nearer. By Lynne Butt

fyou burned the midnight oil at university and produced your most brilliant essays in the middle of the night, you may just have a head start in the big, wide world. After all, emphasises the sociologist Michael Wilmott, of the Future Foundation, the 24-hour society has arrived.

"There are 1 million people at work at any time between 9pm and 1am in the UK, and this figure is likely to double in the next 10 years," he explains. "There seems to be no problem in recruiting staff for night working and there are huge opportunities here. It's all part of the push for excellence in customer service, and that means involving many more people - including graduates."

Imagine it. We'll be able to add such activities as divorce-filing and house-buying to the telebanking, open-all-hours supermarkets, allnight bars and late-night gyms that we are currently privileged to enjoy. Already, a staggering 20 per cent more people watch television between 3am and 6am than did so a mere four years ago, and the number of telephone calls made in the wee hours has quadrupled in the last 10 years.

Increased globalisation is re-moving time barriers, says Willmott, the major consequence of which is that there are fewer limits ou when we can do the most mundane things. "It's all part of the movement away from a manufacturing based society to one that is service-

based," he says.
Particularly prominent is the growth in activity from 6pm to midnight, reflected chiefly in later hours of business for bars and shops. But, predict experts, the peak is likely to shift later. Russell Craig, of Tesco, says: "Our aim is to have a 24-hour store in every major urban area. The number of people shopping at 3am will never be the same as it is at 3pm, but there is a definite demand."

Sarah White, a psychologist, believes that for employees of the future the benefits will be enormous. "If there are no limits to the beginning and end of the day, people will have the option of spreading out their workload. You won't have to think, 'Damn, it's nearly 5pm and I still have 18 phone calls to make.' In stressed. And when you consider that stress is the major cause of people taking time off work, this couldn't be better news for employers."

In addition, she claims, it will finally provide natural night-owls with a chance to work at their best. "The fact is that many people work better in the early hours hut, until recently, most of them had to compromise that characteristic."

But, as anyone who has suffered jet-lag knows, up-ending our natural circadian rhythm – or body clock – can play havoc with sleep patterns. And experts claim that typical student solutions, - using ear plugs to



turn, people will probably be less The night-owl's habitat: more people are working outside the nine-to-five norm Paulo Macarico

sleep during the day taking Pro-Plus to stay alert for the night - can become detrimental over time. In fact, studies of shift workers, including nursing and factory work, reveal that they are more likely than their dayworking counterparts to fall sick, to suffer from digestive and back complaints, to have problems with personal relationships and to have less

and poorer quality sleep.

Alex McKie of the Henley Centre, which has just produced a report on the future of work - claims that a 24hour lifestyle will ultimately mean

Dr Elfed Morgan, of Birmingham newsroom, and is quick to admit that University, who is currently conducting research into the effects of shift work, says that people considering working through the night should first determine whether they are larks or owls. Contrary to popular opinion, he claims, this characteristic is not usually changeable, not least because it is inherited to some extent. "There is evidence that larks - or morning people - fare less well on night shifts," he explains.

Coincidentally, Dr Morgan's daughter Tabitha recently worked her first night shift in a BBC

she was not looking forward to the experience. "I'd heard horror stories from those who hate them," she explains, adding: "I didn't feel so much tired as rather detached during the small hours. And it was very odd going home to bed as everyone else arrived for work."

Ben Williams is one of many psychologists who claims that shift work affects mood, self esteem and optimism and should be approached with huge respect. "Extra care is required if you have an important decision to make during the night or

when you are exhausted. Problemsolving skills are diminished and everything seems just that much more difficult."

John Escolme is a broadcaster who has done his share of overnight shifts as well as earlies and lates. "I find I crave food, but never know which meal to eat at 3am, so I often end up eating four times a day while on shifts," he says. Fortunately, however, he can nap anywhere at any time, and finds it easy to adjust to regular shifts. "Rotating ones are the killer - you never know where you are. It's impossible socially, and you end up feeling depressed and unwell."

Indeed, research reveals that the rotating shift causes the most havoc of all working patterns - even to night-owls. Taking brief rest periods may help to overcome this, and some people - such as Tabitha Morgan - resort to taking sleeping pills to get a good day's sleep.

But there are other methods. Since our circadian rhythm basically responds to light, some shift workers are now buying light boxes to zap themselves with an energising boost before they start a shift. Others are trying out doses of synthetically produced melatonin, the natural chemical that is normally produced by the brain at night when we are sleeping.

However, Caroline Lee, who joined Brann Telemarketing last October, is one of a growing number of people who are completely unfazed by the prospect of shift work. She is one of six on Brann's graduate training scheme in Bristol and believes that night work is a natural progression because today's graduates are used to working longer hours than ever before. "If you apply to a 24-hour telemarketing company, you know what is expected of you," she says. "I'm used to workmg long hours, and you just fit your life around the job."

Lee is convinced that people of her age group will make the 24-bour society flourish. "I think I can speak for all of us on this course - we are totally committed and keen to get on and we don't see shift work as a problem, just part of the job."

The Future Foundation agrees it is younger and more affluent people who want more flexible hours of service, and says that this group is often a good indicator of future mainstream developments

Research also shows that women may be better at coping with night shifts than men - which may, arguably, have some link with the maternal instinct. Many women say that once they have had a baby and experienced broken nights, they are permanently "listening out", even when asleep.

So if you are not only a night-owl but also female, you may have more chance than ever of being ahead of a game that - in less than a decade will become the norm.

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Address: Headquarters are on the outskirts of Swindon in Wiltehire National Power also develops, invests in, owns,

NATIONAL POWER opportunities to put forward new ideas. Graduates are expected to be particularly flexible when it comes to working hours. If you're working in the commercial field, you may even be expected to work shifts.

> Easy to get Into? Last year, 41 graduates were recruited from 2,500 applicants. This year there are expected to be 40. You typically have to have a 2.1 honours degree to be considered. For operational/ engineering positions, you'll have an engineering/sciencebased background; for commercial opportunities, you'll normally have a science/ numerate/ business background. For everything else, having good grades is more important than the content of your degree. Initiative as well as interpersonal, analytical and leadership skills are also

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In Swindon, offices are open-plan, and throughout the power stations there is an expectation that staff are familiar with all operational activity - which inevitably increases sociability. There are only a few organisational layers, so career development emphasises skills rather than hierarchical development. Teamwork, commitment and support are rated highly.

Vital statistics: Annual turnover is in the region of £3bn. Some 4,500 staff are currently employed, with graduates being recruited in areas of engineering and operations, commercial, information technology, human resources and finance.

Lifestyle: You are encouraged to be vibrant and enthusiastic, not least because there are plenty of

fundamental. For all enquiries and applications, contact Ciaran Dunne or visit the website at www.national-DOWELCOM.

Pay: Salaries start at £18,000 for graduates, with 25 days' holiday and private health care. After two years, pay becomes performance-related.

Training: During the first two years, you can expect to gain wide experience over a range of placements, supplemented with training in your core discipline and management skills. You'll have a mentor and you'll be encouraged to reach the standards set down by relevant professional institutions. Substantive roles are usually gained within two

Facilities: Most locations have restaurants, training rooms and sporting facilities. Graduates tend to bond quickly and develop their own social life.

Who's the boss? Keith Henry is chief executive, with John Collins as chairman. KATE HILPERN



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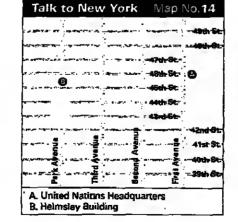
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*THE INDEPENDENT

Still temping after all these years

HELP DESK

YOUR CAREER PROBLEMS SOLVED BY THE EXPERTS

The problem I have reached the age of 30 without settling into a career or finding my vocation. It is making me feel very insecure and is eating my confidence away. I graduated eight years ago with a degree in German, after which I spent two years jobbing in Berlin. Although it was enjoyable, I felt pressured to return to England and train for a "proper" career as a bilingual secretary (NVQ IV). I then worked for an Austrian firm for a year in London, hut left because I was treated like a slave. For the next two years. I temped, but because I needed more of a challenge, I applied for teacher training (PGCE) and secured a place at university. Six weeks later. I realised I wasn't committed

enough and left. I'm now back in temping, but find secretarial work demeaning and only do it for the money. Ideally, I'd like to find a career where I can ntilise my French and German, but how can I break out of the cycle of temping and decide on a job or career or training that really suits me? MARY WESTCOTT-YOUNG,

The solutions Roy Harrison, training and development policy advisor,

Institute of Personnel and Development, says: We all make the wrong career choices from time to time because you can never quite know what you are getting into until you have tried it. The current nature of work and the job market makes the task even more difficult. Dominic Cadbury recently concluded that career paths have disappeared and we are left with crazy paving which we have to lay ourselves! Take a step back and ask yourself what you really enjoy doing and what you think you are good at. Then you can address the question "who would

be prepared to pay me to do it?". You could go back to the Careers Advisory Service at your old university since they increasingly provide for the needs of graduates in your situation. Alternatively, spend some money with a firm of career consultants. Be aware. however, that the field of adult careers guidance is currently unregulated. IPD does not recommend any particular firms. but we do have a register of guidance firms who have signed up to the Institute's code of practice in this area.

BEDFORDSHIRE Paul Roscorla, occupational psychologist, Acker Deboeck, says: Compared to most people, you have little reason to feel desperate. Your qualifications suggest you are

bright, and as Europe inevitably comes together, language skills will become ever more valuable. In addition, you are young which means you have time and opportunity to sort this out. In my experience, few people have a Road to Damascus revelation that shows them what they should do. It comes through persistence, resilience and having the right attitude.

Secretaries and PAs are not slaves per se, but some people treat them that way. Whatever your role, my motto is leave if people treat you badly. All approaches to career guidance centre on isolating what people are interested in and what they are good at. You can do this for yourself and ask your friends for their views. I recommend Clive Fletcher's book Get that Job! Having got together some ideas, make a plan and act positively. For what it's worth I'm optimistic for you - you have talents.

Celia Nicholson, managing consultant, Sanders & Sidney, Specialists in Career Counselling (01908 222 622), says: You have obviously gained an enormous amount of experience working in different companies and countries and this will certainly have a value in your future job search. Don't be too quick to dismiss that. Identify the elements

of some of your most recent jobs and decide which parts you liked most. Was it using your languages, working with people, organising things or working to the pressure of deadlines? Then try to identify the types of companies where you had the best time. You clearly have a natural talent for languages and travel. Have you considered the travel and tourism industries? While these are very competitive fields, you may be able to find an organisation where you can build on your current strengths and gain additional skills through part-time or short courses. In this way you gradually move into a new field rather than making a dramalic change.

But the most important thing right now is to give yourself credit for the successes and achievements that you have made in your life so far. If you see yourself in a positive light you will find that other people will respond very differently towards you.

INTERVIEWS BY CARMEN MIDDLEDITCH

If you have n work problem and want expert advice, write to Carmen Middleditch, Fast Track, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf London E14 5DL; fax 0171-293 2068; a-moil: cfielding@ independent.co.uk

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Further information about NESTA, full job descriptions and details of how to apply should be accessed from our website: http://www.nesta.org.uk or write to Ma. S. Heinsworth, NESTA, Gainsborough House, 33 Throgmorton St., London EC2N 2BR for a recruitment pack. Applications to job share are welcome. Closing date for receipt of applications: 1st March 1999.

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In search of asylum: the new Immigration and Asylum Bill has serious implications for refugees, such as these entering Britain from eastern Europe

It's firm, but is it fair?

The Government may be making life harder for genuine asylum-seekers. By Rachel Halliburton

he new Immigration have also predicted that the Government's proposals will dump victims of argue that Mr Straw has come up with torture in areas of the country that a plan that will not only end up costcannot cater to their needs, will penalise women who have been severely disadvantage genuine abused, and will strand children in schools that are unable to cope with their learning disabilities.

The Bill promises to speed up an apclication process that has already been choked by Home Office computer problems, faulty telephone lines and the disorganised moving of applicants' files from one huilding to another - one lawyer has even been moved to ask whether civil servants do have a sense of irony, as the Bill's subtitle is "fairer, faster and firmer".

Jawaid Luqmani, a solicitor at Luqmani Thompson & Partners, describes the Bill as an attempt to set up a system whereby "even genuine asylum applicants will have to swim against !lie tide in order to survive".

The proposals have come at a time when local authorities have grouned under the financial hurden of dealing with destitute refugees. Just over 46,000 people made applications for asylum last year, significantly more than the 32,000 put forward in 1997.

The two most significant moves in the Home Secretary Jack Straw's and bogus refugees are, first, the re-cent of all asylum-seekers were from

placement of cash benefits by shop to- Yugoslavia, 10 per cent from Somalia kens and, second, the plans to remove raise the suicide rate the financial hurden from London among asylum-seek- and the South-east by sending asylum ers. Over the last two applicants to "reception zones" all over cialised benefits would be needed for several hundred miles away. "What do migration minister, Mike O'Brien, has weeks, leading law-the country. The welfare of the tax-certain asylum-seekers. But Christ-you do about the client continuing to explained that the hold-ups are simply payer has been seen as driving these have to deal with the new system ing more to the taxpayer, but will also

asylum-seekers. Instead of deterring opportunists, says Jane Coker, a solicitor, "the system they are setting up is inevitably

and 8 per cent from Sri Lanka. When the Bill was published, Mr

Straw said that he was aware that spe- London, and is then removed to live is expected to be damning. The imopher Randall, a solicitor at the law see an immigration adviser? It is well the result of a "massive modernisation moving people away from London, where there are established and sophisticated facilities designed to identify and help genuine victims, means that "people are going to be stuck, as victims of torture, with hundreds of miles to go for help. These are very damaged people in difficult situations - I'm sure the suicide rate will go up."

issue of the logistics of providing legal orate, to bring application processing advice for someone who has been to a near standstill. A National Audit advised for their asylum interview in report due to be released on 24 March petent advisers around the country in immigration, even before this dispersal has started."

While lawyers have generally welcomed the modernisation of the appeal system, which includes the right of appeal for anyone who claims that an immigration decision breaches the European Convention of Human

asylum. If you get caught, you are on the plane. For the broader group who will still get an appeal, one-stop appeals could be defensible if they were truly comprehensive. But a large group of people will not have any appeal, or will have an appeal where they can't raise

long-term improvements".

Another problem, says Mr Randall,

is that "at the moment, most people

who overstay, or who breach their con-

ditions of stay in some way, will have

an appeal before they are deported.

What the Bill does is to sweep away

all those appeals - unless they claim

The consensus from the lawyers who will have to work under the new system is that it is to be hoped that the initial modernisation of the asylum process will not be as chaotic as the modernisation of the Home Office's computer system.

the important issues."

But by trying to solve the problems as the Bill proposes, the Government has also exposed itself to fiercer criticism. Mr Randall describes the solution as "an apartheid system. This is an extraordinary package brought by New Labour for the late 20th century, it will come as a substantial disappointment to many who voted for them, and many who were

Costs rise, but quality does not

Despite its defeat in the Lords, Lord Irvine defends his proposal

classic demand-led system. How much it costs the taxpayer depends on how many people find themselves either in police in defence services by lawyers stations under suspicion, or in court facing charges. Last year criminal legal aid cost the tax- defenders could be compared payer £733m. In five years, with their private sector cests have gone up by more counterparts.
than 40 per cent, but the number of cases dealt with has risen by only 10 per cent.

Rising costs are not matched by any evidence of imon criminal legal aid is a penny out of my budget that cannot be spent on civil legal aid helping people to protect or assert their rights.

criminal charges at public expense must be represented by high-quality lawyers, whether in the police station or in court. At present, any formally qualified lawyer can do criminal legal aid work and send in their hill - this is no guarantee of quality service for people accused of crimes, and no way to make sure the taxpayer gets value for money.

There is no universal high quality among those who defend in our magistrates' courts or Crown Courts. People who are charged with criminal offences can and do find themselves with a weak defence counsel up against strong prosecuting counsel.

In all areas of legal aid, I am determined that the Government is active in securing quality services for people who need them - put bluntly, providing good lawyers - rather than simply reactive in paying any lawyer's bills for whatever sort of work is done. But I must aim to deliver quality and economy together, within a case, through the Crown Proscontrolled criminal legal aid

Commission, proposed in my Access to Justice Bill, will organise the Criminal Defence Service largely by contracting with quality-assured lawyers in private practice.

This does not negate the principle that a defendant should be able to choose his/ her own lawyer. All that will change is that the lawyers will be quality-assured and will have a contract with the Criminal Defence Service. Fixed price contracts will be an incentive to efficiency. Competition for contracts will maintain quality of service and provide

While most criminal defence private practice working under contract, I believe the Criminal Defence Service should also be able to use directly employed lawyers, or salaried defenders. But let me say plainly that the Government has no plans to move towards a wholesale salaried public defender system to replace private practitioners

Nor is it part of my plans that any services provided by salaried defenders should be in any way second-rate compared

CRIMINAL LEGAL aid is a with contracted lawyers in private practice. Just the opposite. Where salaried defenders might begin is by plugging gaps in private practice. In this way, the cost and quality of salaried

The prospect of even a small number of salaried defenders has met with special pleading hy vested interests. It is claimed that a state-paid salary proved services to defendants and independence in defending or value for money for the tax- are incompatible, or that there payer. And every penny spent will be unhealthy collusion developing between salaried defenders and those lawyers employed by the Crown Prosecution Service.

Barristers in private practice People defended against claim too much for themselves when they ask people to believe that only they can he honourably independent defenders. The juriges are employed by the state; their independence is beyond question. Prosecuting counsel are members of the independent Bar and yet they are

GINIB



The Lord Chancellor: 'Quality and economy'

instructed and paid, case by ecution Service. Do they lack independence of mind because their livelihood comes from a single, state source?

How can they be seen as being at less risk of pressure or inducement than an employed lawyer with job protection and a steady salary?

The Access to Justice Bill currently going through Parliament will give all advocates statutory protection of their overriding duty to the court and to the interest of justice in accordance with their professional rules of conduct.

My proposals for the Criminal Defence Service are practical and contain incremental changes to the way people are defended at public expense. We will continue to proceed work will be done by lawyers in with piloting schemes and consultation. We will rely on contracted, high-grade lawyers in private practice.

370

:rati

Salaried defenders are no threat to the independence of lawyers or the rights of defendants. But they are the way towards guaranteeing good quality, publicly funded criminal defence services. provided by lawyers whose fundamental duties are to their clients and the court, and at a price the taxpayer can afford.

People are going to be stuck, as victims of torture, with hundreds of miles to go for help ... I'm sure the suicide rate will go up'

going to be more expensive. There will he a separate adjudication system, a separate system with shops, and a parate transport system.

They are not going to provide access to health care - so there will be an increased hurden on the Accident & Emergency services."

More seriously, the Bill as it stands will penalise victims of torture and asylum-seekers suffering from other forms of trauma. Although the emphasis of the proposals has been on tackling economic migrants, figures released by the Home Office show that the majority of asylum-seekers come plans to deter economic migrants from areas of conflict - in 1998, 16 per

Bill is to cut down the advisers - qualified and otherwise - who are seen as using the immigration appeals pro-cedures as a way of milking public funds, plans to force solicitors to be covered by a new statutory regulatory scheme have heen shelved for the moment. Concern about the problem has led to a crackdown on legal aid claims by the Legal Aid Board and its recent announcement that it would work more closely with the Office for

the Supervision of Solicitors. Mr Randall says that the proposals may mean, in practice, that there will

As for the view that one aim of the Rights, this is not the main emphasis of the Home Office proposals.

By setting a six-month target for dealing with asylum applications, the Home Secretary has promised an end to time-wasting cases. The Home Office gives a case study showing how an individual came to England as a student in 1985 and spent almost three years launching repeated appeals until he was deported from the country earlier this month. The Bill would replace the current multiple rights of appeal with one single right.

Unfortunately, this promise has coincided with problems with the be more problems than savings in try-ing to achieve this aim. He raises the Immigration and Nationality Direct-

A legal way to land a million

Lawyers can earn a fortune. But are they worth it? By Robert Verkaik

Syspas Limited Trading from 11-13 Dowgate HIIL London EC42 2SU NOTICE IS HEREIN GIVEN. NOTICE IS HEREIST OF VEN-porsulant to Section 98 of the insolvency Act, 1986, that a macting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8 Baker Street, London WIM IDA on J February 1986 at 10.38 hrs for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 100.48 february 199, 100 and till of the said Act.

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Raymond Hocking and Malcolm Cohen of BDO Stay Harward, 5 Baker Street, London WIM 1DA, are qualified to act as Involvency Practitioners in relation to the above and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's allary as reasonably required. Dated: 5 February 1999 By Order of the Board Martin Kelly Director

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ARE THE very best corporate lawyers worth £1m a year? It's a question that managing partners of leading law firms have been asking themselves after a US firm advertised for English lawyers, offering them

£1m salaries. Anthony Tomkins, founding partner of legal recruitment consultancy Charles Fellowes, says that one managing partner of a City and regional law firm recently complained to him that since the advertisement appeared, his job had been made more difficult.

The idea that a firm rumoured to be the second-tier Chicago outfit McDermott Will & Emery - is prepared to pay salaries at the very highest level in London has served only to stoke up professional realousies.

"Some lawyers in the top law

firms," says Tomkins, "are earning £500,000 upwards and they are quite happy. But the lawyers in the regional firms. on say, £350,000, will wonder how close they are getting to that magic film figure."

And Peter Scott, managing partner of Eversheds, which has the largest number of lawyers in England and Wales, concedes that the advertisement and the media hype have brought the topic of money on to the top of the agenda.

"It is fairly common ground among most City law firms that the US law firms are putting pressure on remuneration," he says.

Lesley MacDonagh, managing partner of Lovell White Durrant, says that law firms have to be aware of changes in pay structure, but she also questions the real significance

behind the kinds of sum being advertised. She suggests that taking everything into account the fim lure may be "illusory". Typically, a large starting

salary would be conditional, and open to renegotiation after two or three years. Crucially, the US law firm will need evidence that the partner is able to bill three or four times his or her salary - in this case £3m to £4m. And Mrs MacDonagh says: "Most real stars are not seduced by the beadline starting rates. Other aspects of life at a firm will weigh heavily in

deciding to stay or go." She cites firm loyalty, strong client relationships and a partner's control over his or her working and personal destiny as key issues.

Allen agrees that such lures will not necessarily tempt the "rain-makers" from the the top world, we are overpaid."

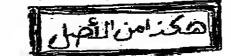
City law firms. Although they may be on a few hundred thousand less than the fim mark, the extra cash will not be regarded as a worthwhile tradeoff against their "relatively comfortable" lives.

The question still remains: is any lawyer worth £1m?

Mr Tomkins says: "If I put my hand on my heart, I would have to say 'no' - a surgeon saves lives, but the market does not work like that."

Mr Scott's view is: "We live in a capitalist country, not a managed economy, so you really have to ask the client if he thinks that the lawyer adds

value to the business." But Mr Allen, an English lawyer working in a US firm, describes £1m as "silly money" for a lawyer. "Let's face it, for all the great good we do in the



NEW FILMS

DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART (PG) Director: Willi Patterson

Starring: Anthony Edwards, Jenny Seagrove So how bad is Don't Go Breaking My Heart? Well, All aboard for storybook Fifties Paris. That gingerfirst off, it wastes the skills of ER's Anthony Edwards as a Yankee sports therapist adrift in Blighty. Secondly, it overplays the supposed charms of Jenny Seagrove as the widowed mum he gets together with. This antique of a romantic weepie wheezes towards 8 finale so predictable that you'd rendering of Ludwig Bernelman's kids' stories have to be dead not to see it coming. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon no art. West End: Clapham Picture House, Kensington, Odeon Morble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

I THINK I DO (15) Director: Brian Sloan

Starring: Alexis Arquette, Christian Maelan Ah, the wedding caper. An excuse for reunions, for an ensemble cast, for the tension of etiquette against emotion. Writer-director Brian Sloan ticks all the right boxes during this spry baby-boomer outing, a sleazeball Hollywood agent who gets a few good. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

JACK FROST (PG) Director: Troy Miller

West End. And local cinemas

Tark.

Starring: Michael Keaton, Mark Addy The respective trajectories of two stars meet for an instant in this out-of-season Yuletide tale. On the way down goes Michael Keaton as a self-absorbed bluesman who dies and then gets reincarnated as a snowman. And on the way up is hest mate. They meet, they pass, and formula firm is had by all. West End: UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA E BELLA) (PG) Director: Robert Benigni

Starring: Robert Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Barbican Screen, Curzon Mayfair, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelseo. And local cinemas

MADELINE (I) Director: Daisy Von Scherler Mayer

bread house on the corner is the boarding school attended by nine-year-old Madeline (Hatty Jones). That hatchet-faced woman out front is the strict instructor (Frances McDormand). That car going by is a Citroen. You get the picture. This overclossed looks a shade one-dimensional; all artistry and

Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon

Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea,

Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

MY GIANT (PG) Director: Michael Lehmann

Starring: Billy Crystal, Gheorghe Muresan Billy Crystal plods his way through Michael "Heathers" Lehmann's Lilliputian comedy about but it's too hyperactive and ingratiating for its own life lessons when he runs into a saintly giant (Gheorghe Muresan) in Romania Expect size jokes in the middle, and glib morals at the end. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Harrow Warner Village

> YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Director: Neil LaBure

Starring: Ben Stiller, Jason Patric Another troubling X-ray of American mores from The Full Monty's Mark Addy as his salt-of the earth In the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. Your Friends and Neighbors widens its focus a little, yet in all other respects this looks like a carbon copy of LaBute's debut. There are the same stage-bound confines, the same structured misanthropy, the same dense weave of dialogue. Two features in, and LaBute has chewed this bone to bits already. West End: Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir. Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Virgin Fulham

GENERAL RELEASE

Computer animated trifle about a worker ant (voiced by Woody Allen) who tries to break out do-gooder West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin of his totalitarian rut. West End: Ritzy Cinema, Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. Virgin Trocadero. Repertory: The Lux Cinema, And local cinemas Prince Charles, And local cinemas

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

In the follow-up to Babe, knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak animatronic fairytale. West End: Barbican Screen, Valley UCI 12, Richmond Odeon Studio. Cinema And local cinemas Repertory: National Film Theatre

A RUG'S LIFE (I)

See The Independent Recommends, above. Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, And local cinemas Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whitleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

BULWORTH (18)

Warren Beatty's new political satire is crude and condescending on occasion, yet genuinely audacious and committed too. West End: Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's story of a female figurehead struggling to gain purchase in a male world largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Panton Street, Odeon Mezzanine

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith and Gene Hackman star in this big. noisy and effectively claustrophobic conspiracy thriller. West End: Odeon Camden Town. Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

HIDEOUS KINKY (15)

Through the backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's hippie single-mum with her two daughters (Bella Riza, Carrie Mullan). Meanwhile, gormless backpackers, Sufi teachers and Said Taghmaoui's love-interest weave across the narrative. West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema.

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's wartsand-all biopic of the Du Pre sisters. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Curzon Soho, Odeon Swiss And local cinemas

HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15) Stella got her groove back by taking off to Jamaica with her feisty buddy (Whoopi Goldberg), sashaying around in a bikini and getting herself a little love action in the form of a man young enough to be her son. Essentially this is Shirley Valentine with an Afro-American spin. West End: Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero. Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

LITTLE VOICE (15) Timid Jane Horrocks perfects strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. Bracing black comedy, Horrocks' vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Came push it through to the final curtain. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

LIVING OUT LOUD (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG) This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed Village West End. And local cinemas

through 19th-century California in the company

of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic

Road, Virgin Haymarket. And local cinemas

MULAN (T)

This animated feature about a girl who disguises herself as a soldier to spare her ailing father from the certain death of combat is one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has Plaza, Ritzu Cinema, Local: Edmonton Lee ever made, West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Ritzu

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End.

PECKER (18)

Trash auteur John Waters swerves into sunnier streets with Pecker, his fluffily satirical tale of an amateur Baltimore photographer who is adopted as a fly-on-the-wall artiste by the New York elite. Pecker goes big on blue-collar kitsch without ever making any real, stringent point. West End: Clapham Picture House, Metro, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

What sustains the film is the ingenuity of its central conceit, its ongoing "mathematics is the language of nature" mantra and too-cool-for-school demeanour West End: ABC Printin Street

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

Practical Magic sees Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman cast as two sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their orbit. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)

In planning his cartoon life of Moses, DreamWorks honcho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result ends up looking more like The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: Empire Leicester Square, UCI Whiteleys. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema, Watermans Arts Centre. And local cinemas

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15) Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama featuring Tom Hanks and harsh, devastating battle

sequences. West End: Plaza SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbi-Cottage. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre. can Screen, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

STEPMOM (12)

This sugar-glazed, oven-ready affair casts an out-of-sorts Susan Sarandon as a middle-aged matriarch squabbling over her offspring with the new model mom (Julia Roberts) that hubby Ed Harris has hooked up with. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

TWO GIRLS AND A GUY (18)

Heather Graham and Natasha Gregson Warner are the duped girlfriends of Robert Downey Jr's love-rat prims donna. Two Girls and a Guy gives them plenty of room to move and breathe, turning the yarn into a pungent acting showcase. West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

VERY BAD THINGS (18)

Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering grossout comedy in a Loaded-magazine style, but it's ultimately a film with nowhere to go. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Life is Beautiful (La Vita è Bella) (PG) Roberto Benigni directs and stars in this tragicomic fable about an Italian Jew who tries to shield his boy from the horrors of a Nazi conceotration camp by pretending that the brutal regime is an elaborate game.

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow head a multi-star cast.

Living Out Loud (15) Holly Hunter (right) plays a Manhattan woman who, left by her husband, befriends the elevator operator in her building. Writer Richard LaGraveoese handles everything with affectionale restraint.

A Bug's Life (U) More child-friendly than Anta, this animated feature spins another eojoyable yarn about an ant colony and its battle to survive. Kevin Spacey

provides the voice of the chief grasshopper. The Opposite of Sex (18) Christina Ricci plays 16-year-old bitch-on-wheels Dedee, who causes all kinds of havor when she

moves in with her half-brother (Martin Donovan).

ANTHONY OUTNN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Copenhagen (Duchess Theatre, London) Michael Frayn's protound and haunting meditation on science, morality and the mysteries

of human motivation. To 7.4kg

Oklahoma!

(Lyceum Theatre, London) Widely regarded as the best ever, Trevor Nunn's glorious production of the Rogers and Hammerstein classic fully deserves its West End transfer. To 26 Jun

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's Theatre, London) Triumphant revival of Theatre de Complicité's surreal and searing plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz. To 20 Feb

The Winter's Tale (RSC, Stratford) An amazingly rich and complex performance from Antony Sher (right) in Gregory Doran's

the price we pay for them. To 20 Feb.

Darkness Falls (Palace Theatre, Watford) Jonathan Holloway's entertainingly creepy doublebill of ghostly chillers about our deepest wishes and

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Monet in the 20th Century (Royal Academy)

The gardens and filly ponds at Giverny dissolve into elemental visions: fiery lights, haze, liquid reflections, voids and depths. The strange last works of Impressionism. To 18 Apr

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever, Women: exquisite melanges of flesh and tabric, dreams of sex and money. To 25, 1pr

Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery) This survey of nearly 50 years, worth of work offers Caulfield's full rang - notable, those hold become outlines, blocked in with translucent colour To 11.457

Disasters of War

(Wolverhampton Art Gallery) "I saw this" - three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Visions from the blackest of times. To 20 Mar.

Thinking Aloud (Cornerhouse, Manchester) Sculptor Richard Wentworth curates an exploration of creativity in art and design. an assertment of rough drafts, dowdles and models (ngh)), To 28 Feb.



TOM LUBBIAL

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET ABC PANTON STREET
(0870-902 0404) → Piccadilly
Circus Elizabeth 2.10pm,
5.10pm, 8.10pm Lock, Stock &
Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm,
3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm My
Name Is Joe 1.20pm, 3.45pm,
6.20pm, 8.40pm x (Pi) 1.25pm,
3.30pm 6.10pm, 8.35pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) ↔ Piccadilly Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm. 6.10pm, 8.30pm Switchblade Sisters 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.20pm,

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square/fottenham Court Road Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm I Think I Do 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 8.30pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE
(0870-902 0403) & Leicester
Square/Piccadilly Circus Buffalo
66 3.55pm, 8.40pm Class Trip
2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm.
8.55pm Un Homme et une
Femme 1.40pm, 6.25pm Hotel
du Nord 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm,
9.05pm La Vie Revée des Anges
1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.05pm,

8.25pm ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) O Tottenham Courl Road A Bug's Life 1 20pm. 4,05pm, 6,45pm, 9pm Little Voice 1,30pm, 3,55pm, 7,05pm, Texas Chainsaw Massacre 9,40pm Shakespeare in Love 1,10pm. 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) + Barbican Life s Beautiful 6.15pm, 8.40pm kespeare in Love 6pm,

CHELSEA CINEMA 0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square Hilary and Jackie 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-488 3323) ↔ Clapham Common A Bug's Life 1pm. 3pm. Spm. 7pm. 8pm Hideous Kinky 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Madeline 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm Pecker 7.30pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Life is Beautiful 1pm, 3.30pm. 6pm. 8.40pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm) O Leicester Square/fottenham Court Road Hideous Kinky 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Hilary and Jackle 1.30pm, 4pm, 8.30pm, 9.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.15pm, 3.15pm. 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SOUARE (0990-888990) O Leicester Square Meet Joe Black 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm The Prince of Egypt 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm. 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.45pr

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate Your Friends and Neighbors 1.50pm. 4.10pm. 6.30pm, 8.55pm (+ Short: fartoo)

(0171-734 1506) ← Piccadlily Circus/Leicester Square The Apple (Sib) 2pm, 6.30pm Dobermann 4.15pm, 8.45pm Pecker 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge Kinky 3pm. 5pm, 7pm, 9pm NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) O Notting Hill

Gate Shakespeare in 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm ODEON CAMPEN TOWN 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm Little Voice 11.50am, 2pm, 4.15pm, 9.10pm Pecker 3.50pm. 6.30pm. 6.35pm, 12.20pm.

Shakespeare in 1. 2.50pm, 5

5.45pm

9.05pm ! 12.10pm,

12.10pm, 2.30pm, 8.25pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm DDEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007)
Piccadllly Chrus Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm 8.45pm

ODEON KENSINGTON
(08705-050007) ⊕ High Street
Kensington A Bug's Life
11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.45pm,
7.15pm, 9.45pm Bulworth 7pm
Don't Go Breaking My Heart
2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Life
Is Beautiful 1pm, 3.50pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm Little Voice
1.50pm, 4.25pm, 8.45pm
Madeline 1.45pm, 4pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.10pm,
3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm
Stepmond 6.25pm, 9.25pm ODEON KENSINGTON

Romanov-style

production.

In rep to 4 Mar

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

ODEON MARBLE ARCH ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) © Marble Arch
A Bug's Life 11.45am, 2.05pm,
4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9.05pm Don't
Go Breaking My Heart 11.50am,
2.10pm, 4.35pm, 6.55pm,
9.10pm Enemy of the State
12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm
Madeline 1.30pm, 3.45pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.35pm,
3.25pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm
Stepmonn 6.05pm, 8.55pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

ODEON MEZZANINE About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE 6.15pm, 8.45pm Hilary and Jackie 4pm Little Voice 6.20pm, 8.50pm Madeline 12.10pm, 8.50pm Madeline 12.10pm, 2.05pm Shakespeare In Love 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Your Friends and Neighbors 1pm. 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

ODEON WEST END (08705-050007) ↔ Square Little Voice 1.55pm, 8.55pm 6.20pm, 12.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA Back To the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm,

PLAZA (0990-888990) Piccadilly (Crous Babe: Pig in the City 12.40pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8pm 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8pm

(0171-837 8402) & Russell Square Hideous Kinky 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Your Friends and Neighbors 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm

RITZY CINEMA

[0171-733 2229] BR/© Brixton
Antz 10.30am Babe: Pig in the
Cley 10.30am A Bug's Life
12noon, 1.50pm, 3.35pm,
5.25pm, 7.15pm, 9.05pm The
Eel 2.30pm Hideous Kinky
2.45pm, 4.50pm, 9.15pm How
Stella Got Her Groove Back
7.05pm Life is Beautiful
1.35pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm
Mulan 11am, 12.50pm
Mulan 11am, 12.50pm
4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm Your
Friends and Neighbors 4.40pm, RITZY CINEMA Friends and Neighbors 4.40pm. 7pm, 9.20pm (+ Short: Tattoo)

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Hideous Kinky 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Your Friends and Neighbors 3pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Short: Sleeping with the SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) & Angel Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) & Belsize Park Life is Beaudful 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm UCI WHITELEYS (0990-888990) & Queensway A Bug's Life 11.15am, 11.40am, 1.30pm, 2.20pm, 4pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Jack Prost 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm Life is Beautiful 12.35pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Little Voice 6.40pm, 9.20pm

Madeline 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm The Opposite of Sex 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Prince of Egypt 11.30am Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 9.50pm

(0870-907 0710) Θ Sloare Square/South Kensington A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Butworth 6.15pm, 9.15pm Life is Beautiful 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Madeline 1pm, 3pm The Parent Trap 12.45pm, 3.15pm Stepmom 6pm, 8.45pm

(0870-907 0711) South Kensington Hideous Kinky Kensington Hideous Kinky 7.10pm, 9.20pm Jack Frost 12ncon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm The Mask of Zorro 1.10pm, 4pm The Opposite of Sex 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm Two Girls and a Guy 9.40pm Your Friends and Nelghbors 12.40pm, 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) • Piccadilly Circus Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Two Girls and a 8.55pm Your Friends 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

(0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly ircus Antz 12.30pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6pm, 8.50pm Jack Frost 12,10pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm Livins Out Loud 1pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.25pm Madeline 12.05pm, 2.05pm, 4.05pm Pecker 8.50pm Practical Magic 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm 6.50pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 6.40pm, 9.10pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) O Leicester Bulworth Square Survorth 1.45pm.
4.15pm. 6.45pm. 9.15pm Den't
Go Breaking My Heart 12ncon.
2.10pm. 4.30pm. 7pm. 9.30pm
Hom Stella Got Her Groove Back How Stella Got Her Groove Back 5.50pm, 8.30pm Jack Frost 11.30am, 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm Living Out Loud 1pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Madeleine 11.20am, 1.30pm, 3.45pm The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.50pm The Opposite of Sex 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm A Perfect Murder 9.10pm Perfect Murder 9.10pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4pm.
6.40pm, 9.20pm (+ Short: Eight)
Rush Hour 9.40pm Very Bad
Things 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm.

> **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) ↔ Park Royal A Bug's Life 10am, 11.20am. 12.10pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm. .50pm, 4.50pm, 6.10pm, 7.10pm. 8.30pm, 9.25pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Enemy of the State 7.20pm, 10pm Ho Stella Got Her Groove Back 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.50pm Jack Frost 10.25am, 12.40pm, 3pm, 5.20pm, 7.40pm Little Voice 6.50pm Madeline 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.40pm My Giant 11am, 1.10pm The Parent Trap 11.50am, 2.20pm Practical Magic 3.20pm The Prince of Egypt 10am, 12noon, 2pm espeare in Love 10.40am, 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm The Siege 10.10pm Star Trek: Insurrection 5.10pm Stepmom 6pm, 8.40pm Very Bad Things 9.10pm

ODEON (08705 050007) @ High Barnet A Bug's Life 12.15pm. 2.20pm, 4.50pm. 7pm, 9.05pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.15pm, 3.45pm. 7.10pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 4pm, 6,45pm, 8,45pm Madeline 12noon, 2pm Shakeeare is Love 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 1pm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Jack Frost 1.10pm. 3.40pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 2pm. 5.40pm, 8.30pm

STUDIO (0181-663 0103) The Taste Of Cherry 8pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550)

BR: Bexleyheath Antz 12.05pm A Bug's Life 11am, 12noon, 1.15pm, 2 15pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.45pm, 7.45pm, 6.45pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 3.10pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 9.35pm Enemy of the State 9pm Hilary And Jackof the State 9pm Hilary And Jack-ie 2pm. 4,30pm, 7,10pm, 9 40pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Haln 2,45pm, 8,30pm Jack Frost 11,30am, 1,45pm, 4,05pm, 6,25pm Little Voice 5pm, 7,15pm, 9,30pm Madeline 11am, 1pm, 3pm The Par-ent Trap 12,30pm Practical Mag-ic 12,30pm, 6,15pm The Prince of Egypt 11,25am Shakespeare In Love 1,30pm, 4pm. 6,30pm Love 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm Stepmom 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm Very Bad Things 9.50pm

BROMLEY BROMLEY
ODEON (08705 050007) BR:
Bromley North/Bromley South A
Bug's Life 11.55am. 2.10pm,
4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm Little
Vice 6.25pm, 9pm Madelline
12.10pm. 2.20pm, 4.20pm The
Parent Trap 11.55am Shakespeare
in Love 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm,
8.35pm Stepmorn 3pm, 5.45pm,
8.25pm

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: West/East Croydon Life is Beautiful 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Prince of Egypt 11am FAIRFIELD HALLS [0181-688 9291) BR: Easl Croydon The Prince of Egypt 7.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection phone for details

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West

Croydon, A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8pm Jack Frost 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7pm Living Out Loud 9pm Practical Magic 12.15pm, 2.35pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Antz 10.30am A Bug's Life 11.10am. 12.10pm. 1.20pm. 2.30pm. 3.40pm. 4.50pm. 6.10pm. 7.10pm. 8.30pm. 9.30pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2.40pm. 4pm. 6.20pm. 8.40pm Enemy of the State 6.50pm. 9.40pm Jack Prost 11.50am. 2.20pm. 5pm. 7.20pm Little Voice 6.40pm. 9.05pm Madeline 11.40am. 2pm. 6.20pm. The lise 11.40am, 2pm, 4.20pm The Parent Trap 10.20am, 1.10pm

Practical Magic 4.05pm The Prince of Egypt 11.10am, 1.30pm Shake-speare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm,

6pm, 8.50pm Star Trek: Insurrec-

tion 12noon Stepmom 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Very Bad Things DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Healhway Antz 10.35am A Bug's Life 10.30am, 11am, 12.40pm, Antz 10.35am A Bug's Life 10.30am, 11am, 12.40pm, 1.30pm, 3pm, 3.40pm, 5.10pm, 6pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.40pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 12.30pm, 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 12.30pm, 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 9pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 9.20pm Jack Frost 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Little Voice 6.50pm, 9.10pm Madeline 10.50am, 1.20pm, 3.50pm The Parent Trap 10.40am. 1.45pm, 4.30pm Practical Magic 4pm, 6.30pm The Prince Of Egyp 11.30am, 2pm, Shakespeare in Love 10.45am. 1.15pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 11.20am, 1.40pm Stepmom 6.10pm, 8.50pm Very Bad Things 7.20pm,

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway A Bug's Life 11,45am, 2pm, 4,20pm, Bug's Life 11.45am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Madelline 12.30pm, 2.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Step-mom 5.30pm, 8.30pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) + Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for omes Antz 12.50pm, 2.50pm A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 7.35pm Daag phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times The Prince of Egypt 12.45pm, 2.45pm Zakhm phone for

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) O Totlenham Hale Antz 11.45am, 2.30pm Babe: Pig in the 11.45am, 2.30pm Babe: Pig in the City 12.30pm A Bug's Life 10.30am, 11am, 11.30am, 1pm, 1.30pm, 2pm, 3.30pm, 4pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 4.45pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Enemy of the State 9.20pm

Hilary and Jackie 3 15pm, 6 05pm 8 45pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 7 15pm, 9 50pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain 8pm Jack Frost 11 15am, 1 Abom. 4.15pm. 7pm Little Voke tradpm 4.15pm, 7pm Little Voke 9 odpm Madeline 10 45am, 1 20pm, 3.50pm, 6 15pm The Mask of Zor-ro 10.45am My Glant 10.15am, 3.45pm The Parent Trap 1.7novn 2.45pm Practical Magic 8.50pm The Prince of Egypt 10pm Shake-speare in Love 12.45pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm 5tar Trek: Insur-rection 5.30pm 5tepmom 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 9.10pm

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4908)
Elephani & Castle A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm bon't Go Breaking My Heart 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 2.10pm 5.45pm 8.20pm 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Aa Ab Laut Chalen 11,45am, 3.30pm, 7.15pm Antz 12.30pm, 2.30pm A Bug's Life 11am, 12.00n, 1.15pm, 2.15pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.45pm, 6.45pm, 7.45pm, 8.45pm Daag 2.30pm, 9.30pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2.15pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Enemy of the State 6.20pm, 9pm Hillary and Jackie 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Halm 11.15am, 2.45pm. Rehte Hain 11.15am, 2.45pm Rehte Halm 11.15am, 2.45pm. 6.20pm. 9 45pm Jack Frost 12.15pm, 2.30pm. 4.45pm, 7pm Little Voice 4.30pm, 6.50pm. 9pm Madeline 11.50am, 1.30pm. 3.50pm My Glant 12.30pm. 2.15pm The opposite Of Sex 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 11.30am, 2pm Practical Mack 11.40am, 2pm Practical Mack 11.40am, 2pm Practical Mack 11.40am, 2pm, 4.30pm Magic 11.40am, 2pm, 4.20pm. 6.45pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Shahbed-E-Mohabbat 11.10am, 6.15pm. 9.45pm The Siege 9.15pm Step-mom 11.15am, 1.45pm, 4.30pm. 7.10pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things

NORTH FINCHLEY NARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) O East Finchley Finchles Central Antz 10.25am A Bug's Life 11.30am, 12ncon, 2pm, 2.50pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.10pm, 7.50pm 9.30pm, 10pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 12,40pm, 3pm, 5 10pm, 7,40pm, 9,50pm Enemy of the State 9pm Jack Frost 11am, 1,45pm, 4,15pm, 6,45pm Little Voice 6 20pm Madeline 11 10am, 1.30pm, 4pm The Parent Trap 10.15am, 1 10pm Practical Magic 6.50pm, 9.20pm The Prince Egypt 10 40 nm, 1 15 cm Shakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm Star Trek: Insurrection

3.50pm **Stepmon** 4.10pm. 7pm.

9.40pm Very Bad Things 9 10pm FINCHLEY ROAD 3110] & Finchley Road A Bug's Life 11am, 1 10pm, 3.30pm, 5 15pm 8.15pm, 10.30pm Bulworth 7.50pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 3pm, 5.20pm, 7 40pm, 10 15pm Enemy of the State 10pmJack Frost 12noon, 2.30pm. 4 50pm, 7 20pm Little Voice 7 30pm Madeline 11 40am, 2pm, 4.30pm The Opposite of Sex 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Parent Trap 12.05pm Practical Magic 9.40pm The Printe of Egypt 11 30am 1.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm Stepmom 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.50pm

Very Bad Things 10.05pm **GOLDERS GREEN** ABC (0181-455 1724) @ Golders

Green A Bug's Life 1.45pm, 4.05pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Life is Beautiful 4.15pm, 6.45pm.

9.15pm Little Voice 2.15pm Made-line 12.05pm, 1.50pm Shakespeare

in Love 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) & Belsize Park A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Jack Frost 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm Little Voke 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love

2.35pm, 5 15pm, 8 15pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) + Ravencourt Park/Hammersmith A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6 40pm, 9pm Jack Frost 1pm 3pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 8.50pm Madeline 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm Shakespeare In Love 12,50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Stepmom 6.20pm, 9pm

HARROW SAFAR1 (0181-426 0303) + Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Fire 7pm Hum Aapte Dil Mein Rehte Haln 1.30pm, 5pm 8.45pm Hu Tu Tu 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow on the Hill Antz 11am A Bug's Life 10.45am, 11.10am, 1.15pm, 1.40pm, 3.35pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 6.40pm, 8.30pm, 9.10pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Enemy of the State 9pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 5.40pm, 8.20pm Jack Frost 11.40am, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm Little Voice 6.30pm Madeline 9.35am, 11,50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm My Giant 10.20am, 12.40pm, 3.10pm The Parent Trap 9.40am. 12.25pm Practical Magic 7pm, 12.25pm Practical Magic 7pm, 9.30pm The Prince of Egypt 11.20am, 1,35pm Shakespeare in Love 10.40am, 1,30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Star Trek: Insur-rection 4pm Stepmon 3.20pm, form 8.40pm Mag. Bad. Things 6pm, 8.40pm Very Bad Things 9.20pm

ODEON (08705 050007) + Hal-ODEON (08705 050007] ⊕ Holloway Road/Archway A Bag's Life 12.05pm, 12.30pm, 1.05pm, 2.20pm. 2.40pm. 3.25pm, 4.35pm, 4.50pm. 5.45pm, 6.50pm, 8.05pm, 9.05pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 12.10pm. 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Enemy of the State 8.35pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 5.55pm, 8.40pm Jack Frost 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 8.55pm Madeline 12.10pm, 2.05pm, 4.9m Shake-S.50pm Line totic 5.55pm, 4pm Shake-speare in Love 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm

ODEON (08705 050007) - Gants Hill A Bug's Life 11.40am. 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 11.30am, 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Madeline 1.20pm, 3.20pm The Prince of Egypt 11.35am Shakespeare in Love 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 5.30pm, 8.10pm

KILBURN
THE TRKYCLE CINEMA |0171328 1000) & Kilburn Hideous
Kinky 6,30pm, 8,45pm Mrs
Brown 3pm The Prince of Egypt

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm. 8.30pm Jack Frost 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm Litde Voice 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) & Highgate A Bug's Life 12,15pm, 2,40pm, 4,50pm, 7pm, 9,05pm Madeline 12,35pm, 2,25pm, 4.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 6.05pm, 8.35pm

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 12,10pm A Bug's Life 12noon, 2,20pm, 4,40pm, 7pm, 9,10pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 3pm, 5.25pm, 8pm Enemy of the State 9,05pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6.20pm, 9pm Living Out Loud 5.30pm, 7.30pm Madeline 12.05pm, 1.50pm, 3.40pm Mulan 11.50am The Parent Trap 12.35pm cker 9.30pm Practical Magic 1,35pm, 3,35pm The Prince of Egypt 2pm Shakespeare in Love 4,05pm, 6,40pm, 9,15pm Switchblade Sisters 9,55pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 8.35pm Jack Frost 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm Shake-speare in Love 2.10pm, 5.10pm,

ABC (0870 9020401) + Putney ridge/BR: Putney A Bug's Life 5.30pm, 8.20pm 12.45pm, 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Jack Frost 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm Little Voice 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O-Richmond A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare In Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) BR/9 Richmond Don't Go Break-ing My Heart 1,30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Hilary and Jackle 6,30pm, 9.10pm Madeline 12,30pm, 2,50pm The Prince of Egypt 2,10pm, 4.20pm Stepmom 2,10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Your Friends And Neigh-hors 5mm, 7,25pm, 9,45pm, 2,50pm bors 5pm, 7.25pm, 9.45pm

ROMFORD A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Bulworth 8.45pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 8.40pm Jack Prost 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford Antz 12.10pm A Bug's Life 11.15am, 12noon, 1.30pm, 2.20pm, 3.45pm. 4.45pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm Dr Dolittle 10.15am Jack Frost 2пооп, 2.10рт, 4.30рт, 6.50рт Little Voice 6.40pm, 8.45pm Made-ilne 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 7pm Mulan 10.15am The Parent irap 1.30pm 4.15pm Practical Magic 8.55pm The Prince of Egypt 11.30am Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Small Soldiers 10.15am Stepmom 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 9pm

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.45pm. 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm Shakespeare in Love 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-lewood A Bug's Life 12noon, 1pm. 2.20pm, 3.30pm, 4.40pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 9.15pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 9.15pm Jack Frost 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm Madeline 12noon, 2.05pm, 4.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Stepmom 6.20pm, 9.15pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9pm Jack Frost 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm Living out Loud 8.55pm Shakespean in Love 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm

ODEON |08705 050007) + Brix ton/Clapham Common Aa Ab Laut Chalen 7.20pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm. 9pm Enemy of the State 5.45pm 3.25pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 5.45pm. 8.25pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 3.40pm Madeline 12.10pm, 2pm, 3.50pm The Parent Trap 12.40pm, 3.15pm The Prince of Egypt 1,30pm Stepmom 12,20pm, 3pm, 5,40pm, 8,20pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East A Bug's Life 11.45am, 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 6pm, 8.40pm Made-The 12.15pm. 2.25pm, 4.30pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.15pm Shakespeare In Love 6.20pm, 8.50pm Stepmom 6.30pm, 9pm

SURREY OUAYS
UCI (0990 888990) & Surrey
Quays Antz 12,30pm, 3,10pm,
5,20pm A Bug's Life 10,30am, 11.30am, 1pm, 2pm 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm, 9.30pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 4.45pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Enerny Of the State 9.10pm Hideous Kinky 7.30pm, 10pm Hobeous Kinky 7.30pm, 10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 8.40pm Jack Frost 11.15am, 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm Little Voice 4.10pm, 6.45pm Madeline 11am, 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm The Op-1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm The Op-posite of Sex 9pm The Parent Trap 10.45am, 1.30pm The Prince of Egypt 11.45am, 2.10pm Shake-speare in Love 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Stepmom 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.50pm

SUTTON
UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/9 Morden Antz 11.15am,
1.30pm A Bug's Life 10.30am,
11.30am, 1pm, 2pm, 3.30pm,
4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm Enemy of The
State 9.30pm Hilary And Jackie State 9.30pm Hilary And Jacke 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Little Voke 7.15pm, 9.50pm Madeline 11am, 1.15pm, 4.10pm The Parent Trap 10.45am The Prince of Egypt 10.15am Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm Stepmom 6.45pm, 9.45pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET |0181-888 2519) +0 Turnpike Lane A Bug's Life 1.30pm. 4pm. 6.30pm, 8.40pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 4.45pm. 6.45pm. 8.15pm Madeline 1.15pm, 3pm Shakespeare in Love 1.05pm. 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC 10870-9020424) Waltham-ABC 10070-3020-424] • Walliam-stow Central A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm 8.35pm Bulworth 8.20pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Jack Frost 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames A Bug's Life 2pm, 4.05pm, 6.55pm, 9pm Madeline 2.20pm, 4.20pm Shakespeare in Love 6.15pm.

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Bulworth 8.55pm Jack Frost 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm

WIMBLEDON ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O ODEON (08705 050007) BR/G-Wimbledon A Bug's Life 11,20am, 1,45pm, 4,10pm, 6,30pm, 8,50pm Don't Go Breaking My Heart 2,05pm, 4,20pm, 6,35pm, 8,50pm Little Voice 6,30pm, 8,50pm Madeline 12non, 2,10pm, 4,25pm The Parent Trap 11,30pm Shakespeare In Love 12,10pm, 2,55pm, 5,35pm, 8,20pm, 8,2 5.35pm, 8.20pm Star Trek; insur-rection 12.25pm Stepmom 2.40pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) + South Woodford A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Jack Frost 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm Little Woice 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm

WOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) 8R: Woolwich Arsenal A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Madeline 2pm, 3.50pm Stepmom

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queersberry Place. SW7 (0171-838 2144/2148) L'Argent (PG) 8.45pm

ICA The Mail, SW1 (0171-930 3647) Animate!: Channel 4/Arts Council Collaboradon Highlights (NC) 6.30pm Figures in a Land scape: Shorts (NC) 9pm

NFT South Bank, S£1 (0171-928 NFT South Bank, S£1 (0171-928 3232) The Last Unicorn (U) 2.30pm Carry On Cabby (U) 6.15pm Bring-ing Up Baby (PG) 6.30pm The Bride of Frankenstein (15) 7.30pm Buffalo 66 (15) 8.30pm The Third Generation (18) 8.45pm

PHOENIX High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) The Prince of Egypt (U) 2pm Hideous Kinky (15) 4.15pm, 6.30cm, 8.45cm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171-437 8181) Sliding Doors [15] 1.15pm U-Turn (18) 3.30pm Heat (15) 6pm Ronin (15)

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0171-420 0100) The Truman Show (PG)/Primary Colours 6.15pm **WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High**

Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) The Prince of Egypt (U) 1.30pm, 4.45pm Hilary and Jack-ie (15) 9pm BRIGHTON

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) Hideous Kinky (15) 1.45pm. 6.30pm Hilary and Jackie (15) 4pm. 8.45pm The Acid House (18) 6pm

BRISTOL WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Hideous Kinky (15) 6pm Hilary and Jackie (15) 6.05pm, 8.35pm Peck-er (18) 8.25pm

ARTS (01223-504444) Hideout Kinky (15) Spm. 7.10pm Hilary and Jackle (1S) 12.30pm, 2.45pm.

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Pecker (18) 2.30pm, 7.30pm The Maltese Falcon (PG) 6.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors (18) 8.15pm

CHICHESTER NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) The Prince of Egypt (U) 1pm The Parent Trap (PG) 3.15pm The Mask of Zorro (PG) 5pm Psy-

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544)
The Opposite of Sex [18) 2.30pm,
6.15pm, 8.30pm The Prince of
Egypt [U] 2.30pm Dobermann
(18) 6pm, 8.15pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) The Disappearance of Finbar (1S) 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8,15pm

<u>THEATRE</u> WEST END

Ticket availability details are for to-day; times and prices for the week; running dimes include intervals.

— Seats at all prices) — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue. [4]: Wed. [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Fe-licity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5)[7] 3pm, ends 6 Mar. £19.50-£27.50. £12.50-£17.50 (restricted views). 130 mins.

AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclai drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterioo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]]7] 2.30pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins.

▶ ANNIE Rags to riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/⊕ Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, ends 28 Feb, £12.50-£32.50, 165 mlns. DART Tom Mangion, Danny Webb. Gary Olsen in Yasmina Reza's com-edy about art and friendship. Wyn-

dham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) &

Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm. [7] [1] 5pm. £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST LAYish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)(7) 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

• BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rusell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 [0171-369 1733] & Lelc Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £11.50-£32,50. 165 mins.

> BUDDY Musical biog-show trac-ing the brief life of Buddy Rolly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ◆ Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats (1) 4pm, £10-£30, half price Friday matinees.

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems, New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ◆ Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £10.50-£35.165 mins.

DECAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical about two murderous women and their nightclub act. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WCZ (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. (4][7) 3pm. £16-£36 (Inc booking fee), 130

• THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
(ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare
Company fast-forwards through 37
plays, Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1
(0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ, WedSat Rym, [5] 3nm, [7] 5cm, [11] form Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, [1] 4pm, £10-£2S, 120 mins. COPENHAGEN New drama from

Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 145 mlns. O DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN

Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the seres. Apolio Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-14 5070) & Picc Circ, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm, £10- £10, concs £5. £25, concs available.

 DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Heason Puppets. London Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 [0171-416 6022]
 Hammersmith Theses 7 30pm [40171-2 200mm] Tue-5at 7.30pm, [4)[7] 2.30pm £12.50-£32.50. 150 mins.

) GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film featuring a range of popular songs. Cambridge Eartham Street, WCI 10171-494 5080) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7,30pm, |4[[7] 3pm. £10-£32.50. 150 mins.

• AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy, Lyrk Shaftesbury Awenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) • Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm. £7.50-£29.50. 165

PAN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WCZ (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, (7] 5pm, £12-£29.50, 110 mins.

 KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Ben-nett's comedy about the moribund writer Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) ⊕ Pkc Circ. In rep, today 3pm & 8pm. ends 26 Feb. £12-£30.

LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halllwell's drama. Comedy Panton Street. SW1 (0171-369 1731) ↔ Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm,]5[(7] 3pm. ends 13 Mar, £7: £27.50.

THE MEMORY OF WATER Ali-son Steadman and Julia Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) 8R/+ Cha ing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5][7] 3pm, £8-

D LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masdramatisation of Victor Hugo's mas-terpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (5((7) 2.30pm, £7-£35, 195 mins

MISS SAIGON Musical which re-sets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Di Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-Sat 7.45pm. (4[[7] 3pm. £8.50-£35. 165 mins

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodimnit. St Martin's West Street, WCZ (0171-836 1443) ♣ Leic 5q. Mon-Sat 8pm, (3) 2.45pm, [7] 5pm, £10-£24,50, 135

OKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed pro-duction of Rodgers and Hammertideuth in housers and Hammer-stein's cowboy v farmhand musical. Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 10870-606 3446) & Charing X/Em-bankment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 June, £10-£35.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 10171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Picc Crc. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm. £10-£35. 150

المنظمة التي المنظمة المنظمة

DRENT Musical inspired by La Bo-heme and set in modern day New York, Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, [A][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160

& RICHARD E Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

DOLIVIER: Perer Pan Stephen Civer's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller in rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 20 Feb. 20 Feb. ● NT2000: Private Lives Coward's

intimate comedy exvesdrops on a stormy relationship. Tonight, 6pm,

O LYTTELTON: The Forest Alan Av-

ckhourn's new version of Ostrovsky's black social satire stars Frances de COTTESLOE: The Riot Nick-Darke's drama from Kneehigh Theaire. In rep, tonight 7.30pm. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. NT2000: £4, concs £3. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, S£1 (0171-452 3000). BR/O Waterloo.

CANTERBURY

787787)

GIRL DEORD

HARLOW

(01279-431945)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY o THE BARBICAN: The Merchant
Of Venice RSC production of Shakespeare's drama about love and money, in rep. today 1,45pm & 7.15pm,
ends 9 Mar. 180 mins.

 THE PIT: Goodnight Children Everywhere A teenage evacuee re-turns home at the end of the war and after the death of his parent Richard Nelson's moving new dr In rep. tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Apr. Barbican Theatre: £5-£27. The Pic £12-£18.50, Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891), G/BR: Barbican/Moorgate.

 YOUNG VIC: Bartholomew Fair Jonson's theatrical drama is sympathetically staged by the RSC. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, £14-£20, The Cut. SE1 (0171-928 6363) �/BR:

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Ar-gyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) & Oxford Circus, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4)[7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 miss

junk opera, featuring the Tiger Lil-lies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street. W6 (0181-741 2311) ⊕ Hammer-smith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends Apr 10, £5-£18. • STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

SHOCKHEADED PETER Brilliand

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-mu cal. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Vic-toria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins. OTHE STREET OF CROCODILES Bruno Schultz's short stories provide the inspiration for Theatre de Com-

plicite's acclaimed and absurdist drama, Oueen's Theatre Shafresbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ, Tue-Sat 8pm, [7] 3pm, [1] 5pm, ends 20 Feb, £6-£25, • TOAST Richard Wilson directs Richard Bean's new drama set in a

Huil bakery. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) → Leic Sq. VASSA Howard Davies directs a

new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) + Le ic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5)[7] 3pm. ends 27 Mar, £5-£29,50.

THE WEIR Conor McPherson's cama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke O York's) St Martin's Lane, WC2 10171-565 5000) & Lele Sq/Char-lng X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4]17] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mlns.

• WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Berustein's classic musical attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, WI (0171-839 5987) ⊕ Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (5][7] 3pm,

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name about two children who mistake an escaped .45pm. [5](7) 3pm. £10-£32.50.

e THE WOMAN IN BLACK Stage adaptation of Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-835 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covert Garder/Horborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, (3) 3pm, (7) 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEDA THEATRE Certain Young Men Peter Gill's comedy of con-temporary manners looks at the sexuality and the modern man. Mor Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 3pm, ends 20 Feb. £9.50-£19.50, concs ave

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE A Small Drop of Ink: Falling David El-dridge depicts a family dealt a series of cruel blows by fate. Tonight 8 pm. ends 5 Mar. E6-£12, concs available. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) → Swiss Cottage.

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON Jackson Ward Dark comedy about retired surgeons. Tue-Sun 1pm, ends 7 Mar. ES. concs £4. The Vagina Monologues Eve Ensier performs ber own aclaimed off-Broadway hit. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 6 Mar, £12-£13.

Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) **THEATRE** COUNTRYWIDE

YEOVIL THEATRE ROYAL Blues Brother Soul Sisters Ruby Turner stars in this feelgood soul musical. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Fri. 8pm, Sat 9pm, mats Thur 2.30pm, Sat 5pm. ends 6 Mar. £3-£19, concs available

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call ALANIS MORISSETTE (right) will perform five UK

concerts in July. Since she signed to Madonna's Mayerick label. Morissette has transformed herself from Canadian teen pop star to 1990s adult icon, forming an impressive songwriting team with Glen Ballard. The tour follows the 1998 release of Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie, and her loyal fans will no doubt fill the stadium venues with ease.

Telemest Arena, Newcastle (0191-401 8000) 6 Juli Evening News Arena, Manchester (0161-930 8000) 8 Jul; NEC, Birmingham (0121-780 (133) 9 Jul; Wembley Arena, London (0181-902 8833) 14-15 Jul

ADAPTED FOR the stage from Victoria Wood's TV drama, Pat and Margaret focuses on the life and loves of two northern sisters, characters originally played by Julie Walters and Wood herself. Pat (Christine Mackie) is the star of an American soap, has three houses, a pool and a convertible. Margaret (Christine Moore) lives in a bedsit and works in a motorway cafe. This poignant play explores the fives of two very different women. Octagon Theatre, Howell Croft South, Bolton (01204 520661) to 20 Feb



EXHIBITIONS

OANTERBURY
MARLOWE THEATRE The Cherry
Orchard Chekhov's last play, about
a Russian ismily vainly trying to protect their beloved estate as they
furch towards benkruptcy. 18-20
Feb, 7.30pm, mat today 2.30pm.
E7.50-E11.50 The Friars (01227727797) BRIGHTON
BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART
GALLERY Mary Potter (19001981) Retrospective of the artist's
largely figurative paintings. Mon; Ite& Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pmands 28 Mar, free, Church 5pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Church Street (01273-290900)

ORCHARD THEATRE Prates of Penzance Paul Nicholas stars in this swash-buckling reworking of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic. Tue-Sar 7.45 pm, mat Wed 2 pm, ends 20 Feb. £16.50-£24.50, concs available 2pm-5pm. ends 20 Mar, free. Stock-well House. Bruton High Street (01749-812205)

MILL STUDIO, YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE What Maisie Knew Adaptation of Henry James's novel about an 1880s tug-of-love battle. 17-20 Feb, 8pm. £9, concs available Mill-brook (01483-440000) CAMBRIDGE

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso and Matisse Prints, drawings, and ceramics from the museum's collection. Ends 11 Apr.

Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Early etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 2 May, free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900) YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle and Dick Terry Johnson's new play looks at the Carry On actors and recreates Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Babs Windsor on stage, Tue-Thur 7.45pm. Fri & Sat 8pm, mat Thur 2.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £10-£21.50, concs available Millbrook (01483-440000)

Disparates: Goya Late satirical etchings by the Spanish master. Mon-Fri 12noon-5pm, Sat 2pm-HARLOW PLAYHOUSE A Lovely Sunday for Creve Coeur Odd-ball comedy about thirty-something women from Graese Theatre. Tonight 8pm, £7-£8, concs £6-£7 The High

NEWBLIRY WATERMILL THEATRE More Talking Heads Janet Brown, Patricia England and Sophie Lawrence bring Alan Bennett's superb monologues to life, Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mars Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar, £6-£16.50 Bagnor (01635-46044)

Home Gardens (01322-220000)

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE Proposals Neil Simon's comedy about an ex-tended family reunian. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, mat Thur 2.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £8-£19.50, concs available Beaumont Street (01865-798600)

PETERBOROUGH KEY THEATRE Bouncers John Go ber's naughty comedy about night-clubs. Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Feb. £9-£10.50, concs available Embankment Road (01733-552439)

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL Return to the Forbidden Planet Cosmic adventure musical. Mon-Thur 7.30pm, Fri 5pm & 8.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £10-£21.50 Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

READING THE MILL AT SONNING Two Dozen Red Roses Comic love story set in romantic Borne. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 20 Feb. £21.95-£32.95 including dinner Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SOUTHAMPTON NUFFIELD THEATRE Earth and Sky Thriller about a librarian who thinks animer about a invarian who times she knows her boyfriend well - until there is a marder and his murky past is revealed. Sam Janus stars. Monthur 7.30pm. Fri-Sat 8pm. today 1.30pm, ends 27 Feb. E5.95-£12.50, conto available University Float (0.1703-£71771). Road (01703-671771)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Milchell's adoptation of the CS Lewis Narnis classic. Today 1.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 27 Feb. E5-E30 Waterside (01789-295623)

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE Darkness Falls Double bill of sinister drama from Jonathan Holloway, Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £4-£15.75 Clarendon Road (01923-

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA CLIFFS PAVILION Girls' Night Out in Ibiza Lads and lasses in a steaming frenzy, Ibiza style. 15-18 Feb. 8pm. 19 & 20 Feb. 6pm & 9pm. £8.50-£16.50 Station Road (01702-

PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Women on the Verge of HRT Two fortysomething women discuss their situation in life. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £5.50-£14.50, concs available London Road (01702-342564)

THEATRE ROYAL Gym and Tonic John Godber's comic insight into serobics and the ageing process. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Thur 2.30, Sat 4.45pm. ends 27 Feb. Phone for prices Thames Street (01753-853888)

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE Boogle Nights Shane Richie stars in a new 1970s musical 15-18 Feb, 8pm, 19 Feb, 5_30pm & 8.30pm, 20 Feb, 5pm & 8pm, £7-£18.50 Peacocks Arts & Entertainments Centre (01483-761144)

OCTAGON THEATRE South Pacific Rodeers and Hammerstein's hit musical about love and war on a kish tropical island, 16-20 Feb., 7.30pm. £12.50-£17.50, concs available Hendford (01935-422884)

BRUTON GALLERY Forming the Figure Including works by Rodin and Henry Moore, Mon-Fri 10am-1pm &

PITZWILLIAM MUSEUM Picasso

COLCHESTER UNIVERSITY GALLERY, SOUARE FIVE, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX The

4.30pm, ends 13 Mar, free, Wiven-hoe Park (01206-873260) BR: LONDON CAMDEN ARTS CENTRE Double Games: Sophie Calle Comprehen-sive retrospective of Calle's work, in-cludes a new work made with novelist

Paul Auster, Tue-Thur 11am-7pm.
Fri-Sun 11am-5.30pm, ends 28
Mar, free. Arkwright Road, NW3
(0171-435 2643/5224) & Finchley DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Years of a Design Icon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern British 1927-1939 Astudy

on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Bar-6pm, ends 18 Jul. ES.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames, 5E1 0171-378 6055) & Tower HII/DLR: lower Gateway.

HAYWARD GALLERY Patrick aulfield More than 50 colourful p ings by the leading British artist. Mon., Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Tue & Wed 10am-8pm, ends 11 Apr. £6, concs £4, Tamily £12. Betvedere Road, SE1 (0171-960 4242) O/BR Waterloo.

NATIONAL GALLERY In the Light of Fra Angelico: Zanobi Strozzi Study exhibition exploring the paint-ings of the 15th-century artist. Ends

Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4. Wed £4 7pm-10pm, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-747 2885) O/ BR Charing Cross, Lekester Square.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Eighty paint-ings made in the 25 years after 1900, Mon-Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-10pm, ends 18 Apr. £9, concs £6, child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadli-by, W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 413 1717) Green Park.

TATE GALLERY In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Hol-bein, Ends 28 Feb.

Art Now 17: Thomas Demand's Timnel Looped film of travel in a tun-nel explores urban life. Ends 25 Apr. Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Bacon Paintings and draw-ings previously kept secret. Opens 16 Feb. Mon-Sun 10am-5.40pm, ends 2 May, Free, Milibank, SW1 J0171-

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Chinese Sliks Brightly coloured 18th and 19th-century hangings. Ends 28 Feb. Nineteenth Century French Draw-ings Recent acquisitions alongside Recent acquisitions alongside illar major drawings. Ends 28 Feb. free. The Painterly Brush Oil sketches dating from the 18th to the early 20th

century. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm. Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 21 Mar, free. Beau-mont Street (01865-278000) ST IVES ST IVES TATE GALLERY English Roots: Eric Cameron Thousands of layers of paint surrounding organic objects.

and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century and a selection of contemporary Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies, the artist's birthplace. Mon-Sa 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3,50, concs £2. Portimeor

Displays 1998-9: Partnerships

Beach (01736-796226) SWANSEA GLYNN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes 5pm, ends 14 Mar, free, Alexandra Road (01792-651738/655006)

CLASSICAL

WEST ROAD CONCERT HALL Cambridge Philiharmonic/West Dvorak's Water Gobin and Tchaikovsky's Pathetique Symphony. Tonight 8pm. £8.50. University of Cambridge (01223-504444)

LONDON BARBICAN HALL LSO/Chung Jean-Yves Thibaudet plays Rachmani-nov's Srd Pizzo Concerto with the composer's Symphonie Dances. Tonight 7.30pm. £6.50-£32. Bar-bican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) ◆ Moorgate/Barbican.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Bach Choir/Hill Russian settings per-formed with the Philharmonia or-chestra. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£30. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) RR/& Waterloo.

WIGMORE HALL Budapest Wind Ensemble Selection of 18th century music for woodwind. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£14. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) + Bond Street/Oxford

OPERA

LONDON ROYAL ALBERT HALL Tosca In-theround staging of Puccini's opera di-rected by David Freeman. Tonight 7.30pm, £13.50-£39.50, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) &

DANCE LONDON SADLER'S WELLS AT THE PEA-COCK THEATRE Paco Pena Fla-menco Presents La Musa Gitana World class fignenco dance, song and guitar. Tue-Sat Bpm, mat Sat, Sun 3pm, ends 7 Mar. £7.50-£27.50. Portugal Street. WC2 (0171-863 8222) & Holborn/Temple,

THEATRE ROYAL St Petersbury Ballet: The Nucracker Post-Christmas ballet treat for all the fam-lly. Tonight 7.30pm. £4.50-£23.

heatre Street (01603-630000) WINCHESTER JOHN STRIPE THEATRE Addido 12 The Spirit Of Okin Dance and drumming from throughout Africa inspired by the peacock's beauty. Tonight 7.30pm. £6.50, concs £5.50. King Alfred's College (01962-

LITERATURE

LONDON NEW AGENDA Four poets share their work: Charles Leftwich, Elizabeth Cook, Sally Crawford and Keith Jones. Lauderdale House Waterlow Park, Highgate Hill N8 |0181-348 8716) & Archway. Tonight 8pm, £4, concs

ADULTEROUS QUEENS FIODA MAC-Carthy, acclaimed biographer, examines shifting images of Guinevere in 19th and 20th century culture. Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall South Bank SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/& Waterloo, Tonight 7.30pm, £4, concs

COMEDY

ALAN DAVIES IN URBAN TRAU-MAAT ST DAVID'S HALL The star of Jonathan Creek in an evening of genial stand-up. Tonight 7.30pm, The Hayes (01222-878444) £13-£14.

GRAVESEND

GRAVESEND CRAIG CHARLES AT WOODVILLE HALLS The star of Red Dworf and Robot Wors. Tonight 8pm, Windmill Street (01474-337459/60) £11.50,

LONDON ED BYRNE AT THE TALK OF LON-DON Whimsical brand of humour from the Perrier Award nominee. Tonight 8pm, Parker Street, off Drury Lane, WC2 (0171-387 2414) O Covent Garden, £10.

SWINDON AL MURRAY THE PUB LAND-LORD - LATE LOCK-IN '99 AT ARTS CENTRE Expert character or 614837) £8 concs £7.

CLUBS BRIGHTON

PHONIC HOOP AT THE ENIGMA
Jazz and break beat with guest DJ
Tim "Love" Lee. Tonight 10pm-2am,
£3, cones £2, Ship Street (01273-NOTTINGHAM

EVENTS

BRACKNELL SILVERSMITHING AND JEW-ELLERY MAKING (10-12 YEARS) A chance to create your own unique and beautiful pendant, badge or keyring with resident silversmith Marie Neville. South Hill Park Arts Centre South Hill Park (01344-484123) Today 10am-noon, Non-members £6. members £5.50, materials £2.

LONDON IONDON
INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ART
AND ANIMATION Week long celebration of the relationship between art
and animation, with screenings of
contemporary and classic animation,
debates and special appearances by
major animators. ICA The Mall SW1
(0171-930 3647) Charing Cross.
Ends 18 Feb, phone for details.

CROMWELL: WARTS AND ALL EXHIBITION The museum's collection of Cromwell memorabilia, the largest in the country, explores the controversy still surrounding this complex and puzzling figure from English history, Museum Of London London Wall ECZ (0171-600 3699)

Barking Of Charles of Capul's Monsage 10am-5.50pm, Sun 12noon-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, £5, concs/child £3, family £12 (to museum), group concs, tickets valid for the whole

MUSIC

BOURNEMOUTH SUZI CUATRO, ALVIN STARDUST, THE RUBETTES Manathon triple-header 1970s nostalgla tour. Bournemouth In-ternational Centre Eleter Road (01 202-

456456) Tonight 8pm, £11-£15. CANTERRIBOY NINE BELOW ZERO High-energy Rhythm'n Blues outfit. Penny The-arre Northgate (01227-470512) Tonight 8pm. £6. concs £5.

SARAH JORY Virtuoso lap-steel guitarist, now rising fast to the rathers of the UK country scene, playing the forthcoming album Kiss My Innocence. The Borderline Manette-Street W1 (0171-734 2095) © Tottenham Court Road, Tonight

8.30pm, £6. STEVE HOOKER RUMBLE Heavy rockabilly from the Essex badlands. Gaz's Rockin Blues. St Moritz Wardour Street W1 (0171-437 0525) Oxford Circus. Tonight 10pm, £7,

JONATHAN RICHMAN The new wave pioneer, revitalised by his appearance in the film There's Something About Mary, returns to promote the new album, I'm So Confused Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) O Camden Town, Tonight Spm. £10.

PHIL MARTIN Hurdy gurdy virtuoeo. Paradise Bar New Cross Road SE14 (0181-692 1530) & New Cross Gate. Tonight 9pm, £4, concs SHIMAL Songs from Turkey and the Mediterranean regions. The Spitz Commercial Street E1 (0171-392

lonight 8pm, £6, concs £4.50.

120

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SHERYL CROW, RODDY FRAME With the Globe Sessions album hav-ing sold over 3 million, the first lady of US adult rock celebrates her re-cent 6 Grammy nominations. Wembley Arena Empire Way, Wembley (0181-902 0902) — Wembley Park. onight 8pm, £17.50-£20.

Prom Marine Parade 101903-235387) Tonight 8pm, £5.50. MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

WILKO JOHNSON BAND Southend R&B guitar maestro of Dr Feelgood and The Blockheads. Inn on the

BEDFORD STAN TRACEY TRIO Influential British bebop pianist. Gordon Arms Castle Road (01234-406762) Tonight 8pm. £9, concs £8.

CAROLINE TAYLOR GROUP Drums-led quintet after Horace Silver. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) ♥ Fulham Broadway/Earls Court. Tonight 10pm,

GILAD ATZMON Flard blowing con-temporary smoophonist. Bull's Head Lonsdale Road SW13 (0181-876 5241) BR: Barnes Bridge. Tonight 8pm, £4,

NORMA WINSTONE/JOHN TAY-LOR Lyrical 1970s ambient jazz vo-cal and piano duo. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street WI (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road, Tonight 9pm, £12.50.

FLORA PURIM/AIRTO MOREIRA Long running Latin fusion team, support from trombonist Mark ROTH INGRIAM: BREAKDOWN AT THE BOMB With Tony Global, Goodfella, Johny C, Phat J, Vinlez and Cafe dei Martyn, Tonight 10pm-2am, £4, concs £3,50. Bridlesmith Gate (0115-950 6667) Nightingale. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) & Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, £15, mems £4 |Mon-Thu); £20. mems £8 (Fri-Sat)

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RADIO 1

(976-998MHz FM)

6.30 Scott Mills.

(88-902MHz FM)

9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Richard Lit-

tlejohn. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05

Johnnie Walker. 7.00 David Allan.

8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 Punt and

Comedy Showcase: Takeaway. 10.00 Melly Talks Jazz. 10.30

Richard Affinson, 12.00 Katrina

Dennis: It's Been a Bad Week. 9.30

Leskanich, 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester.

12.00 Composer of the Week: Dvo-

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Con-

cert. Paul Allen introduces a recital

given by leading Italian viol consort

Labyrinto at last year's York Early

Music Festival They perform a se-

quence of Renaissance love songs.

and madrigals in transcriptions and

adaptations for viols by composers

including Cipriano de Rore, Orlando

7.30 Performance on 3. Hans Wern-

er Henze's chamber opera 'Elegy for

Young Lovers'. Every year, the inn at

great poet but a petty tyrant with no

moral scruples. Any human suffering

or tragedy is mere grist to the mill of

his art. Just how far is he prepared

to go to create his masterpiece?

With Quentin Hayes, baritone (Mit-

tenhofer) and including Susannah

Waters (soprano), Susan Bickley

Jon Garrison (tenor), Louisa

SKY PREMIER

(1995) (50652513).

SKY MOVIEMAY

(mezzo), Roderick Kennedy (bass),

Kennedy-Richardson (soprano) and

Timothy Davies (actor), London Sin-

5.00 Rhinestone (1984) (64079). 8.00

(1984) (77147). 4:00 Tom and Huck (1995)

Takes Or... (8401). 8.00 Hollywood Buzz (4760). 8.30 Addicted to Love (1997)

(70645499). See Pick of the Day. 10.15

Ransom (1996) (545857). **12.15** Fargo (1996) (895285). **1.55** The Juror (1996) (110364). **3.55** • **6.00** Empire Records

7.15 Destroy All Monsters (1969) (1094749-1).

(1988) (24944). 1LOO Back to the Planet of

the Apes (1974) (59012). **1.00** Destroy All Monsters (1969) (28760). **3.00** Outside

Chance of Maximilian Glick (1988) (96050).

5.00 Back to the Planet of the Apes (1974)

(61963). 9.00 Random Encounter (1997)

12.40 Miami Blues (1990) (272797). 2.20

3.55 Proteus (1995) (526567). 5.35 - 7.00

Someone Elses America (1995) (376529).

4.00 Sherlock Holmes and the Spider

Woman (1944) (4106128). 5.30 Hollywood Hall of Fame (3156963). 6.00 Abandon

Ship (1957) (1820857), 6,00 The Phenton

of the Opera (1943) (1825302). 10.00 The

Big Red One (1980) (6999857). 11.55 Noto-

rious Landlady (1962) (60728673). 2.00 Magus (1968) (3540722). 4.00 The Lemon

Drop Kid (1951) (4613277), 5.35 Close.

6.00 Dersu Uzale (1974) (8724296). 8.30 Stand by Me (1986) (8227944). 10.00 The Dead Zone (1983) (6504789). 11.50 Dead of Night (1945) (2568147). 1.30 Raining

Stones (1993) (5444242), 3.00 Pierrot Le

4.00 Fishing Adventures (335/505). 4.30

(6040657). 9.00 Fighting the G-Force (6053321). 10.00 Super Structures

(5063708), **1L00** Forensic Detectives (9538944), **12.00** Science Frontiers

Walker's World (3357789), 5.00 Wheel Nuts

1407963), 5.30 Treasure Hunters (3331741) 6.00 Animal Doctor (3338654) 6.30 Secrets of the Deep (3166302), 7.30 Elegant Solution (335848), 8.00 Discover Magazine

Fou (1965) (9437432), 4.50 - 6.00 The

Firemen's Ball (1968) (2905093).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Desperate (1947) (5001513).

SKY CINEMA

FILMFOUR

(539963). #LOO Twist of Fate (1998) (539963).

(15895). **7.00** Reckless Nights (1997)

de Chance of Maximilian Glick

(38947857): 5.45 Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (1988) (61167708). 7.30 Tracey

the foot of the Hammerhorn in the

Austrian Alps plays host to the en-

tourage of Gregor Mittenhofer, a

di Lasso and Andrea Gabrieli 2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.00 Ensemble.

5.00 In Tune.

4.45 Music Machine.

RADIO 2

RADIO 3

6.00 On Alr.

(902-924MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks.

10.30 Artist of the Week.

11.00 Sound Stories.

6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Mark Goodier. 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark PICK OF THE DAY Radcliffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 ONCE THE question "Will I live the words for The Rake's Steve Lamaco, 10.00 Trade Update. 10.10 John Peel 12.00 Andy Ker-With medical advances raising shaw. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 the average life expectancy, however, it's now a topic of enough to launch a new science 6.00 Sarah Kennedy, 7.30 Wogan.

series, Q & A (9.30am R4). The poet WH Auden (right) enjoyed greater success as by Quentin Hayes. Markus Stenz a librettist than he did as a playwright. As well as supplying

forever?" was seen as fanciful. Progress by Stravinsky, he and his partner, Chester Kallman, worked on Henze's chamber opera, Elegy for Young Lovers. debate deemed respectable about a tyrannical poel who attaches greater importance to art than life. In Performance on 3 (7.30pm R3), the part is sung conducts the London Sinfonietta. DOMINIC CAVENDISH



fonietta/Markus Stenz. See Pick of

the Day. 1025 Postscript. Peggy Reynolds unravels the dramatic, musical and emotional impact of a favounte operatic aria. Tonight, singers Thomas Allen, Robert Lloyd and Richard Van Allan and director Clare Venables fol-low Don Giovanni's passage to hell in the electrifying trio for basses at the end of Mozart's darkest opera. 10.45 Night Waves. Paul Allen talks to sculptor Richard Deacon about his major new exhibition New World Order' and about his abiding interest in language and its meaning in sculpture. Since winning the Turner Prize in 1987, Deacon has continued to attract international acclaim. Plus a discussion of Paul Schrader's new film 'Affliction', based on a semi-autobiographical novel by Russell Banks. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Tele-

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. RADIO 4 (92.4-946MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 Melvyn Bragg - in Our Time. 9.30 Q & A. See Pick of the Day. 9.45 Serial: Planet of the Blind. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; From Our Own Correspondent. 11.30 Fat Chance, 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Open Country. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers 2.15 Afternoon Play: Waistland. 3.00 NEWS; Call You and Yours: 0870 010 0444.

3.30 Science in the Attic. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 NEWS; Law in Action. 4.30 The Material World 5.00 PM 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Yes. Minister. (R) 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 735 Front Row. John Wilson with the

arts programme, including an investigation into the reputation of architect Frank Lloyd Wright, In light of a major new exhibition in Glasgow. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittem. An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. With Rachel Atkins, Ian Pepperell, Kelly Hunter and Sean Baker. Director Peter Leslie Wild (4/30). 8.00 NEWS: On Tap: A History of Drinking Water. In the first of three programmes, Mark Jenner explores the historical significance of water. Paying the Piper'. The introduction of piped water revolutionised the lives of women who spent hours every day collecting water. But it also brought about the first water compa-

ny monopolies and a change in attitude towards this staple of life. 8.30 The Week in Westminster. Boris Johnson of the Daily Telegraph takes a look behind the scenes at 9.00 NEWS; Testbeds, Vanessa gles that shape our lives.

Collingridge explores the technolo-9.30 Melvyn Bragg - in Our Time. Melvyn Bragg and guest discuss ideas and events which have influenced our time. 10.00 NEWS; The World Tonight, With Robin Lustig.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Post Captain. Patrick Malahide reads Patrick O'Brien's novel following the fortunes of Captain Jack Aubrey and his friend Dr Stephen Maturin in the Royal Navy of Nelson's time. Capture by a French privateer (4/10). 1LOO NEWS; The Way It Is. Satire, sketches and a hard look behind the week's media events. Starring Simon Evans, Tracy-Ann Oberman, Dave Lamb and Chris Pavlo. 11.30 A Good Read (R)

12.00 News. 12.30 Late Book: All Points North. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast.

5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. **RADIO 4 LW** (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 . 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.

5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 -12.00 Parliamentary Postcards. **RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW)

6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky Campbel. 12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 On the Line. In-depth investigation of controversial sporting issues. 8.00 Inside Edge. Rob Bonnet and the team examine the issues that affect the sporting world.

9.00 Hoops. Fat Freddie M rounds up the latest news from the British

9.30 Sportshop. Trixie Rawlinson presents the sports consumer programme, including sporting investigations and news of all the latest sporting gadgets.

10.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson, Incl 10.30 Sport, 11.00 News. 11.15 The Financial World

1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey, 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick, 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert: Bach: Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV565 Ton Koopman (organ), Bruch: Violin Concerto No 1 in G mmor, Maxim Vengerov, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra/Kurt Masur, Bizet: Au fond du temple saint. Thomas Hampson (baritone), Jerry Hadley (tenor). Welsh National Opera Orchestra/Carlo Rizzi, Strauss: Also sorach Zarathustra, Bayanan RSO/Lorin Maazel Ravel; Bolero: Montreal SO/Charles Dutoit. Beethoven: Ode to Joy. Westminster Choir and Philadelphia Orchestra/Riccardo Muti. 1L00

3.00 · 6.00 Mark Griffiths. **VIRGIN RADIO** (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Harriet Scott, 6.45 London Calling with Harriet Scott/AM Pete and Geoff. 7.30 Pete and Geoff. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 1.00 James Merritt, 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allan,

Michael Mappin, 2.00 Concerto.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO MARKHZ LW) 1.00 World Today, 1.30 Westway, 1.45 Performance, 2.00 World Today. 2.30 Focus on Faith, 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Business Report, 3.45 Insight, 4.00 - 7.00 World Today (4.00-7.00).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrarl. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 SportZone. 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray, 8.00 James Whale. 12.00 Jan Colins.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

SERGEI FEDOROV won the 10th Goodricke Open in Calcutta on Tuesday at a canter, having already secured first place with a round to spare. His run of five straight wins ended on Monday in a draw with me, after I managed to trick him to gain some advantage but then stupidly lost two whole tempi and in annoyance proposed peace.

Dolmatov and Sorokin had already split the point, so this guaranteed bim victory. In the last round Fedorov drew quickly to end on 9 11, well clear of Dolmatov, Sorokin and Ehlvest on 7.5; nine players. including me, finished with 7.

The sponsors, the Goodricke tea company, will have been delighted by their 10th edition which not only saw uncompromising fighting chess but also gave rise to three or depending on a technicality four international master titles, a second IM norm for DK Sharma and, for the world girls' under 12 champion, Kaneru Humpy, her first women's international norm.

On Tuesday, I most unfairly gave Fedorov's only loss. Here, in recompense, are two of his eight wins.

White: Sergei Fedorov Black: Naravanan Neelakanthan

King's Gambit 1 e4 e5 15 dxe5 Bxf3" 2 [4 exf4 16 cxd6 Ng6 3 Nf3 Be7 17 Bxg6 Bxg2+ 18 Kxg2 fxg6 4 Bc4 Bh4+ 5 Kf1 d5 19 QeT Qg4+ 6 exd5 Be7 20 KE Rf6 7 d4 Bd6 21 Not Qh4+ 8 Bb3 Bg4 22 Kf1 Qh3+ 9 c4 b6 23 Ke1 Rf7 10 Nc3 Ne7 24 Qe8+ Rf8 11 Bc2 h6 25 Nf6+ gxf6 12 Qe1 0-0 26 Qxg6+ Kh8 13 Qh4 Qd7 27 Rg1 1-0 14 c5! bxc5

Black was quickly overrun by the tactics. The critical blunder was 15 ... Bxf3? after which White wins a piece. Instead, a move eurlier he should have played 14 ... Ng6! 15 Bxg6 Be7! when 16 c6 Bxh4 17 cxd7 Bxf3 18 Bf5 Bh5 19 Bxf4 Bg6 20 Bh3 f5 is still a fight.

White: Sergei Fedorov Black: Aleksander Wojtkiewicz Sicilian Najdorf

30 e4 Re8

2 Nf3 d6	31 c5 Re7
3 d4 exd4	32 Rd6 Be7
4 Nxd4 Nf6	33 Re6 Kd8
5 Ne3 a6	34 h3 NbG
6 f3 Nc6	35 Rb6 Kc8
7 Be3 d5	36 b5 axb5
8 Nxd5 Nxd5	37 Rxb5 Ne6
9 exd5 Qxd5	38 Bd5 Kb8
10 c3 e5	39 Ke4 Na7
11 Nb3 Qxdt+	10 Ra5 Neti
12 Rxd1 Be6	41 Ra4 Na7
13 Bb6 Be7	42 Ret Nb5
14 Bd3 Rc8	43 Ret Res
15 0-0 Nb8	44 Kd3 RdS
16 Ríel Nd7	45 Ke4 NaT
17 B12 f6	16 bi Neti
18 f4 Kf7	17 Be4 Nd4
19 f5! Bxb3	48 Rat Ri3
20 axb3 Rhd8	19 Rag Rd7
21 bi Nf6	50 h5 Rd8
22 Be4 Rxd1	51 bi Rc8
23 Rxd1 Rb8	52 Bxd4 exd4
21 Ba7 Ra8	53 Ra7 Rxc5+
25 Bb6 Rb8	54 Kxd4 Re5
26 g4 Ke8	55 Rxb7+ Kcti
27 Kf2 Nd7	56 RcT+ Kd8
28 Bc3 h6	57 Bd5 Re7
29 Kf3 Bd8	58 Ra7! 1-0

In a queenless middlegame Fedorov got control after 18 ... Kf7 19 f5. Black should have tried 18 ... Bxb3 19 axb3 exf4 lo get e5 for his knight. If 36 ... Nd7 37 Re6! - mate threa! -Nxc5 38 Rxe7 Rxe7 39 Bxc5 Rc7 40 b4 should win. The rest was torture.

<u>POKER</u> DAVID SPANIER

SIXTY-SIX PLAYERS signed up for the European Poker Championship last weekend at the Aviation Cluh in Paris - amazing, given that the entry fee was 30,000 francs, or just over £3,000 a head. First prize was £80,000 and a Cartier watch.

"All I can tell you is that our success here is due to hard work," beamed an elated Bruno Fitoussi, the club manager. "This kind of you ever had in London. My plan is to develop a European final of poker oo a par with the World Series in Las Vegas. I hope we can get 100 players oext year."

Why not? Poker in Continental card clubs is on the up and up, with the year-long European Superbowl the next big eveot, at the Concord Card Casino in Vienna on 21 March. The festivities in Paris also attracted a good number of American players, none of whom got into the money in the final event.

The oew European champion Is Paul Testud. by profession a jeweller and by temperament a highstakes player in private games. He discovered casino poker and tournament play only quite recently. He fought a long, fluctuating, very good-natured duel in the final with for their own tournament. Pascal Perrault, a tournament d.spanier@netmatters.co.uk

player par ercellence, who manages to find time from running his pharmacies in Paris to tour the world's poker festivals.

Perrault was always in command, going all in - as the French say, tapis - again and again. But each time he had his opponent down to a handful of chips, Testud bounced back, grinning broadly. Eventually a dinner break was nced. Testud came back in and hil a pair of 10s against a straight draw to take a decisive lead for the first time.

"What did you drink at dinner?" I asked him when it was all over. "Beaucoup, beaucoup!" (a lot), he grinned. By cootrast Perrault, the loser, took only two glasses of red

wine. Seems to be a moral there. It was all very Freoch, with the finalists cracking little jokes between their chain-smoking. The new European champion may not be the best player around, but he gave a coostant impression of enjoying himself, win or lose. As a leading British player summed up the week: "Good games, good food, good drink". In the spirit of the occasion. Testud donated his Cartier watch to the dealers, as a prize

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

Tom and Huck (1995) (35050): 10.00 Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (1988) (43166). 12.00 The Directors (13925). 1.00 Femmes Fatales (22673). 2.00 Rhinestone THE PLOT OF Addicted to then (8.30pm Sky Premier) is featherweight, but this satellite premiere makes for an enjoyably undemanding 100 minutes all the same. Directed by Griffin Dunne, it stars Meg Ryan (right) and Matthew Broderick as two jilted lovers who plan to exact revenge on their former partners (Tcheky Karyo and Kelly Preston, Mrs John Travolta in real life). Inevitably, during their scheming they gradually find

What with Sleepless in Seattle and You've Got Mail, her fluffy comedy drama with Tom Hanks, just coming out, Ryan is making something of a speciality of these light romances.

"Violent Volcano", tonight's Extreme Earth (9pm National Geographic), focuses on the devastating effect of the volcanic eruptions on the Caribbean island of Montserrat

JAMES RAMPTON



(3673), 6,00 Sky Sports Centre (7505). (6069906), 1.00 Treasure Hunters (23887/44). 130 Wheel Nuts (3658155), 2.00 Close 7.00 Count Duckula (56031). 7.30 The

Chris Evans Breakfast Show (19302), 8.30 Grimmy (63578), 9.00 Earthworm Jim (89470), 9.30 Flash Gordon (30692), 10.00 Miracles and Other Wonders (64050). 11.00 Guilty! (51586), 12.00 Jenny Jones (20215), 1.00 Mad about You (55302), 1.30 Jeopardy (40079), 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (20128). 3.00 Jenny Jones REPIREN (2012), 3-00 JETTY JORES (35673), 4-00 Guilty! (54708), 5-00 Star Trek: Voyager (1673), 6-00 Guilty! (4557), 6-30 Dream Team (8437), 7-00 The Simpsons (2302), 7-30 The Simpsons (7321). 8.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (1050). 9.30 World's Weirdest TV (7857), 6.00 8.30 Vionos warrost 17 (7857). 6.000 Friends (43692). 9.30 E R (50091). 10.30 Veronicals Closet (85383). 11.00 Dream Teem (55437). 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager (94234). 12.30 The Commish (79093). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (7355426).

SKY ONE

SKY SPORTS 1
7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3212295). 745
World Wresting (343895). 845 You're on
Sky Sports (210586). 9.00 Recing Naws
(29437). 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Style (29325).
10.00 Unbelievable Sports (76321). 10.30
European Tour Golf (540215). 1.30 Ford
Football Sports (460215). 1.30 Ford
Football Sports (39383). 3.00 Unbelievable Sports
(2321). 3.30 Worthington Cup Football SKY SPORTS 1 (2321), 3.30 Worthington Cup Football Sunderland vs Leicester (57960). 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars

6.30 Football League Review (8857), 7.00 European Tour Golf (95499), 8.30 Spanish European Tour Golf (95499). 8.30 Spanish Football Barcelona vs Valencia (61128). 10.30 Sky Sports Centre (518857). 10.45 You're on Sky Sports (489963). 11.30 Football League Review (72505). 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (7490890). 12.15 You're on Sky Sports (3347529). 1.00 Spanish Football Barcelona vs Valencia (37548). 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (3039180). 3.45 Close. SKY SPORTS 2

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (9944447). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (646857). 7.45 Racing News (3308963). 8.45 Unbelievable Sports (6174789). 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (9460925), 9.00 Fish TV Fishing Texas (5031079). 9.30 Fish TV - Tony Dean Outdoors (3784012). 10.00 Ford Footbelf Special Manchester United vs Arsenal (5776383). 11.30 Worthington Cup Footbalf (5783321). **1.00** Sports Unlimited (3783383). **2.00** Snooker (1215505). **5.00** Football League Review (6061499), 5.30 What a Weekend (9038895), 6.00 Trans World Sport (3703147). 7.00 Snooker (1701505). 10.00 Ford Golf USA - Nissan Open (4760418), 12.00 Tight Lines (4178074), 1.00 Ice Hockey Manchester Storm vs Bracknell Bees (3871744), 3.30 Sky Sports Centre (57691093), 3.45 Close. SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (67852741), 1.00 Fish TV Fishing

Outdoors (87872505). 2.00 Transworld Sport (84132429). 3.00 Futbol Mundial (87915706). 3.30 Watersports World 93191302), 4.30 Sports Unimited (75444321). 5.30 Survival of the Fittest 87756234), 9.00 Inside the PGA Tour (87753147). 6.30 Tight Lines (81553128). 7.30 Ice Hockey (66565968). 10.00 Bobby Chariton's Football Scrapbook (68468692).

EUROSPORT 7.30 Golf US PGA Tour (46470). 8.30 Footbell (58505). 10.30 Ski Jumping (36166), 11.30 Start Your Engines (56708), 12.30 Car on ice (58437), 1.00 Judo (46692), **2.00** Tennis (11505), **4.00** Olympic Magazine (2296), **4.30** Football (91234). 5.30 Tenns (42654), 7.00 Racing Line (16050), 8.00 Boxing (92470), 9.00 Sumo 122340, 10.000 Football LEFA Cups (15321) 1L00 Racing Line (81741). 12.00-12.30 Olympic Magazine (98432).

UK GOLD 7.00 Crossroads (9521654), 7.30 Neighbours (4751741), 7.55 EastEnders (5880079), 8.30 The BE (8856692), 9.00 The Bill (8847944). 9.30 When the Boet Comes in (5769401). 10.30 Phoda (8843128). 11.00 Dalles (4819031). 11.55 Neighboure (78555654). 12.25 EastEnders (7422505). 1.00 Juliet Bravo (3763550). 2.00 Dales (5567166), 2.55 The Bill (5079383), 3.25 The Bill (9462673), 3.55 EastEnders (8648234), 4.30 Rhoda (3359147), 5.00 All Creatures Great and

Small (4495128). 6,00 Dynasty (3668906) 200 2point4 Children (3907708), 240 Dad's Anny (7114050), 8,20 The Brittas Empire (6609857), 9.00 The Young Ones (8318147). 9.40 Bottom (2584741). 10.20 Bill (6744924). 12.00 The Bill (494155). 12.25 Black-Adder II (1689529), 1.05 French and Saunders (8234074). 1.40 Spender (47127616). 3.00 • 7.00 Shopping LIVING

6.00 Tiny and Crew (37645079). 6.20

Johnson and Friends (83545050), 6.30

Greedysaurus and the Gang (12633437).

the Frog (84072963). 6.50 Police Dot

6.40 Trny Tales (84073692), 6.45 Philbert

Shorts (84060128), 7.00 Practical Parenting (5729128), 7.05 Professor Bubble (8353012), 7.30 Cailou (1701692), 7.35 Bug Alert (7507925). 7.55 Practical Parenting (4043944), 8.00 Barney and Friends (4053321), 8.25 Babaloos (15687#1), 8.30 Callou (8846857), 8.35 Try and Crew (5102963). 8.50 Practical Parenting (7442302), 9.00 Cen't Cook, Won't Cook (5880505). 9.30 The Roseanne Show -Highlights (3137944), 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5400708). 10.50 Mazry Povich (7057760), 11.40 Brookside (68167079), 12.10 Animal Rescue (22323031). 12.40 Rescue 911 (96583470). 1:10 Special Babies (84992037). 1.40 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (66284383). 2.20 LA Law (9389857). 3.10 Living Room 2472499). 4.00 Michael Cole (8483857). 4.50 Rolonda (5188429), 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (5077234). 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (3721079), 7.05 Rescue 911 95). 7.35 Animal Rescue (2478470). 8.10 Maury Povich (4627383), 9.00 Nothing Lasts Forever (1822215). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (7785296). 12.00 Close

9.00 Raintree County (1957) (72006383). 1.15 Bridge to the Sun (1961) (118725-18). 2.30 Fixer (1968) (71791722). 5.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Jenny (2944), 7.30 Grace under Fire (5383), 8.00 Ellen (1692), 8.30 Newsradio 72400) 8.00 Drop the Dead Donkey (67296). 9.30 Whose Line is it Arryway? (41147), 10.00 Frasier (99924), 10.30 Cheers (17892), 11.00 Seinfeld (62741). **11.30** The Larry Sanders Show (70147). **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman (83161). **1.00** Taxi (8455). **1.30** The Critic (24078) 2.00 Dr Katz (58396) 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (81345), 3.00 Nightstand (57819).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

(90643383), 1.30 Fish TV Americans

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 London except: 6-30 Newsine 6:30 (505), 11-50 Hearts and Minds (114215), 12,20 Film: The Parallax View (858971). 2.00 News 24 (5821567).

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 London except: 12.30
Dotaman (36660050). 12.45 Dochaidh
Mor (26146147). 6.00 News (925). 6.30
Reporting Scotland (505). 10.20 Life According to Fred (848234).

BBC1 WALES As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales Today (505), 10.50 Question Time (705321), 10.55 Eurovisions (893031). (70521). 10.55 Eurovisions (893031). 11.20 Question Time (175383). 12.20 They Think it's All Over Again (6742797). 12.50 Film: The Parallax View (714703). 2.35 Joins BBC News 24 (78738155).

As Carlton except: 12.20 Angla News and Weather (8352215). 1.00 Short-land Street (9720418). 1.35 Home and land Street (2724-16). 2.00 The Jerry Angle Awey (25620925). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5605366). 3.20 Angle News and Weather (3002091). 6.00 Angle News (321). 6.30 About Angle (573). 10.30 Angle News and Weather

(358437), 11.40 Thursday Night Live (452079), 12.40 The Jerry Springer Show (3626364), 1.25 T in the Park (8256890), 2.25 Box Office America (1988635), 2.50 Cybernet (184068), 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3616242), 4.30 Potty about Pets (39296797), 4.35 Coach (35245154), 5.00 ITV Nightsoreen (12635),

CENTRAL As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (835225). 1.00 Echo Point (17/28). 3.20 Central News (3002091). 5.10 Shortland Street (9043215). 6.00 Home and Away (439654), **6.25** Central News and Weather (447673), **6.55** Lifeline (563470). 10.30 Central News and Weather (358437). 4.05 Jobfinder (6950242). 5.20 Asian Eye (7261616).

HTV WALES As Carlton excepts 10.30 This As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morring (1384654). 12.15 HTV News (7953383). 1.00 Shortland Street (17128). 1.30 Home and Away (88857). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5605586). 3.20 HTV News (3002091). 5.10 A Country Practice (9043215). 6.00 Home and Away (439654). 6.25 Wates Tonight (309050). 7.30 Porgotten Treasures (857), **10.30** HTV News (858437), **11.40** Thursday Night Live (452079), **12.40** The Jerry Springer Show (3628364), **1.25** T in the Park (8256890), **2.25** Box Office America (1988635). 2.50 Cybernet (1184088), 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3818242), 4.10 Potty about Pets (39286797), 4.35 Coach (35245154), 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (12535).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 6.25 HTV West Weather (701418). 6.30 The West (673). 7.30 We Can Work It Out (857). MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN
As Cartten except: 10.30 This
Morning (1384654). 12.15 Meridian News
and Weather (7953363). 1.00 Shortland
Street (9720419). 1.35 Home and Away
(25620825). 2.00 The Jerry Springer
Show (5605596). 3.20 Meridian News
and Weather (3002091). 5.30 Home and
Away (9045215). 5.37 Crimestoppers
(171128). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (321).
8.30 Getaways (673). 10.30 Meridian
News and Weather (358437). 11.40
Thursday Night Live (452079). 12.40 The
Jerry Springer Show (3628364). 1.25 T In
the Park (8256890). 2.25 Box Office
America (1988635). 2.50 Cybernet

(184068), 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3818242), 4.40 Potty about Pets (39286797), 4.35 Coach (35245154), 5.00 Freescreen (12635).

WESTCOUNTRY

WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Morning (11384654). 12.15 Westcountry
News (7953383). 12.27 lituralishes
(8360234). 1.00 Emmerdale (17129).
3.20 Westcountry News (3002091).
6.00 Westcountry Live (95505). 10.30
Westcountry News (358437). 11.40
Thursday Night Live (452079). 12.40 The
Jerry Springer Show (3626364). 1.25 T
in the Park (8256890). 2.25 Box Office
America (1988635). 2.50 Cybernet
(184068). 3.20 Murder, She Wrote
(3818242). 4.10 Potty about Pats
(39286797). 4.35 Coach (35245154).
5.00 ITV Nightscreen (12835).

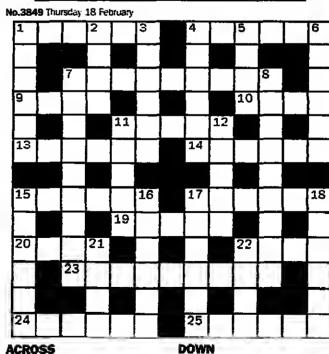
WORKSHIDE YOPICSHIPE
As Certton except: 12.20 Calendar
News and Weather (8352215) 1.00 Home
and Away (85780627), 1.25 The Jerry
Springer Show (4800470), 2.30 Emmerciale (7816760), 3.20 Calendar News
Headines (3002091), 5.40 News; Weather
(481876), 5.55 Calendar (947627), 8.30
Tonight (573), 10.30 Calendar News

(358437). 4.20 Jobfinder (2286445).

TYNE TEES
As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North East News and Weather (3352215). 3.20 North East News and Weather (3002091). 5.55 North East Weather (184692). 6.00 North East Tonight (95505). 10.30 North East News and Weather (358437). 11.40 Around the House (102470), 12.10 Thursday Night Live (2260987).

S4C
As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Bewitched (29343302). 12.30 Sesame
Street (38996789). 1.00 Planed Plant
(34954895). 1.30 The Three Stooges
(27578673). 1.50 Film: The Fermine
Touch* (91204483). 4.30 Ricki Leke
(81894632). 5.00 Planed Plant: Uned 5
(64375383). 5.30 Countdown
(81885944). 6.00 Newyddion (5497166).
6.30 Heno (18063673). 7.00 Pobol y
Cwm (64395147). 7.30 Newyddion
(61885321). 8.00 Slaymaker (64304895).
8.30 Pam Fi Duw? (64383302). 9.00 I
dot (46616465). 10.00 Fether Ted dot (46%465), 10.00 Father Ted (60085012), 10.35 Friends (56492050), 11.03 Titus Stories (38187789), 12.25 Prey (33165567), 1.20 Fusion (55926797), 1.55 Close,

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

11 Blend (5)

Church district (6)

Fires (b) Downward inclination (9) 9 Wading bird (4) 10 Sunken fence (2-2)

13 Boil gently (6) 14 Fourscore (6) 15 Crazy individual (6) 17 Human being (6)

19 Alcoholic drink (5) 20 Story (4) 22 Ruoning event (4) 23 Teaching (9)

24 River (6) 25 Distant (6) 11 Decoration (5) 12 Type of duck (5)

15 Church service (6) 16 Dance (6) 17 Annoy (6) 18 Sewing implement (6) 21 Rim (4) 22 Wander (4)

Loses one's head (6)

Roman date (4)

Solemn word (4)

Take apart (9)

income from employment (6)

Noose (6)

Wild (6)

Sailor (9)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword ACROSS: 1 Disc. 3 Collared (Discoloured), 9 Cabal, 10 Epstein, 11 Acc, 13 Gallicant, 14 Insect. 16 Ignic, 18 Hackneved, 30 Ear, 22 Reagent, 23 Kebab, 25 Thrashed, 26 Want, DOWN: 1 Dacha, 2 Sob, 4 Overly, 5 Lasting, 6 Re-examine, 7 Directle, 8 Plag, 12 Easy chair, 14 Inherit, 15 Confess, 17 Myrtle, 19 Duke, 21 Rebut, 24 Bra.

A to be the state

HURSDAY H EVISION



TELEVISION REVIEW

BBC1

8.00 DITOTHAL Harbour Lights. Nick Berry's first post-RearDest offering caste him as a Dorset harbour master. See Drame of the Day, below (S) (T) (882854)

8.00 Ne wej Regionel Newsj Weether (T) (6321).

10.50 Question Time. From Hull with Tony Banks, Alan Duncan, Martin Sell, Jo Brand, and Director of the Royal Institution, Professor Sueen Greenfield (S) (T) (304673).

11.50 PHOINE The Pereliax View (Alan J Pakula 1974 US). Who is killing witnesses to the assessination of a US senetor? Journalist Warren Beatty investigates in

Joins 5BC News 24 (43002187). To 6am

onquer Nepal's Sun Kosi River

RIDE THE RAPID

If you're not afraid of getting wet, in the fundralsing odventure of o

igh.nchafc.org.uk

NATER RAFTING ADVENTURE 7-27 SEPTEMBER 1999

DRAMA OF THE DAY

THE MURDER OF STEPHEN LA right) Gut-wrenching drametisation case, from his endden, brutal murde London recists in 1993, through to it into the conduct of the case (the rep week). Writer/director Paul Greengr

LAWRENCE (Spm ITV, ition of the Stephen Lewrence under by a gang of south to the opening of the Inquiry report is due out next engrass employs a fast-to powerful effect, and there the performances from the tiste, the Occar-nominated

DOCU-DRAMA

OF THE DAY

5.35 Neighbours. Lou underestimates Drew, which is quite a feet (F) (S) (T) (599234).

5.00 Na

7.00 Wetchdog with Anna Robineon. And Alice Bser, Adrian Goldberg, Becky Evette and Pat O'Mahony. Consumer grumbles (S) (T) (8842).

7.30 EastEnders. Peggy mekse a disturbing discovery se Metthew (blossoming nicely into e Jason McAteer lookalike) tries to hold it together (S) (T) (789).

nts of View (S) (T) (740147)

10.20 Tales of Tools (S) (T) (355789). 10.30 Newsnight. With Kirsty Wark (T) (291760).

11.15 Late Review. With Tom Paulin, Germaine Greer end Ekow Eshun (S) (401875).

12.00 The Phil Silvers Show. Bilko claims to have seen e UFO (Then Weatherview) (R) (10816).

BBC2

Chtef Odo le euspec (R) (S) (T) (495296).

ı ehow for aspking ach given £1,000 end tokl liquee trade (S) (3499).

9.30 Horizon: Electric H

10.00 No

10.30 London Tonight (T) (356437).

11.40 Th

Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (3625635). 1.30 illender (R) (2380513). 2.25 Pop down the Pub (R) (1988635). 2.50 Judge Judy (S) (3838906). 3.40 ernet (S) (80061800). 3.35 Potty ebout Pets (80838). 4.00 Soundtrex (S) (12738567). 4.45 ITV illeneen (8858426). 5.30 Newe (35971). To Sem

5.25 6.00 GMTV (9062842)

5.10 H

7.30 First Sight. Hugh Muir highlighte the racism present some of the country's biggest inetitutions (401).

9.00 Red Dwarf VIII. New The nanobots have not o Red Dwarf Vill. New series of the popular sci-fi comedy. The nanobots have not only recreated Red Dwarf, but have populated the ship with the original crew (S) (T) (4963).:

we; Weather (T) (53031).

10,40 no Murder of Stephen Lewrence. The notusion of tonights drama (T) (309128).

.uradey Night Live. Another topical issue is ked eround the etudio by Nicky Cempbell and -controversielists (S) (459470).

Trishe (5) (T) (5267147). 10.30 This Morning (T) (58902012). 12.20 Your Shout (8352215). 12.30 News: Weather (T) (67686). 1.00 London Todey (T) (17128). 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (1456876). 2.15 Home and Awey (S) (T) (952383). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (951654).

Children'e ITV: Cartoone (5941416), 3.45 The Sylvester end Tweety Myeteries (3977741), 4.00 Lavender Castle (S) (T) (6482857), 4.15 Hey Amoldi (R) (S) (T) (3152499), 4.40 Children's Ward (B) (T) (2042418). me end Awey (S) (T) (9043215)

waj Weether (T) (104215).

6.00 Landen Tonight. Regional news update for the capitel and the Bouth-East (T) (321).

5.30 Videotech -- Brite Winnere' Speciel. Margherita Taylor reflects on the year's Brit Awerds (S) (673).

7.30 We Cen Work It Out. Judy Finnigan, in her Anne Robinson guise, thrashae out more consumer grie! (S) (857). 7.00 Smmerdele. Scott and Kelly find it hard to eay "no", and, thenks to Merlon, Pollerd is in the pink (S) (T) (6470).

8.00 Th

he Bill. "Slinging Mud". DCI Meedows (Simon Rouse) see to court for the triel of drug deeler Frenkle stoeeter and finds himaelf on triet (T) (6437).

11.05 Ally McBeel (R) (S) (T) (1774), 12.05 4 Leter: Prey (1558190), 1.00 4 Leter: Vids (8318155), 1.35 4 Leter: Endogenesis (8368600), 1.40 NYPD Blue (R) (S) (T) (2475635), 2.35 St Elsewhere (R) (T) (3503161).

3.25 Illim Creckerjeck (Albert de Courville 1938 UK). Comedy drema with Aldwych veteran Tom Walle doing his well-loved turn as e genlleman thief pretending to be e manservent at a country house (T) (7707155). To 445em.

Carlton

'N News Haedlines (T) (8357166), **3.20** London day (T) (3002091).

8.00 Norland Namies. This exhaustive namy-school docu-soap concludes with the annual garden party in which proud parents come to see the fruits of their

5.30 True Stories: Kosovo - the Velley. The valley in queellon is the Dranica Valley in the centre of Kosovo, where the current flighting between the Serblene and native Albanians was sparked off last summer. Dan Reed's documentary examinee the roots of the

Channel

hannel

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THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 18 February 1999

Collectors' Lot (T) (809), 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (586), 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5705654), 4.35 Rickl Lake (S) (T) (3388857), 5.30 Pet Rescue (B) (T) (550).

6.00 Dishee. Kate Thornton and Danny Brown Introduce the game show which mixes cookery end romance (1) (963).

5.30 Hollyooks. Chester toenagers. Sean is feeling amorous – but is Cindy ready for his passion? (S) (7) (215).

7.00 Channel 4 News Weather. Including headlines at 7.30pm (S) (T) (783383).

7.55 Zoom. Film by fashlon photographer Tesh, featuring models Vivien Sotart, deelgner Goudicoa, and *ID* fashlon editor Fione Dallanegre (614963).

8.30 The III about Albert Goering. Another chance to film about Albert Goering ~ Field Marshel in Goering's humanitarian younger brother probably e half-brother). Albert Goering arently a kind of Oskar Schindler, running of escepe operationa from the heart of the lab was a firm.

7.00 The Sig Breektaet (S) (67893). 9.00 Saved by the Bell (R) (70708). 9.30 Sem and Max (74012). 10.00 Eerle, Indiana (52995). 10.30 Boy Meete W. (59692). 11.00 Moceha (9895). 11.30 Madison (729 12.00 Seeame Street (T) (50844). 12.30 Bewitchs (R) (T) (85129). 1.00 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (17370). 1.30 Drift-Net (90386147).

35 1117 Gonduct Unbecoming (Michael Anderson 1975 UK). Stagey, all-star courtroom dreme set in the days of the Rej. A Sritish officer in 1890e India (James Faulkner) is accused of dishonouring a fellow officer's wildow (Susanneh York). Co-starring Michael York, Trevor Howard, Christopher Plummer end Richard Attenborough (38062895).

BILLY Rise and Fail of Lege Diamond (Budd Boetlicher 1960 UK), Crieply written, beautifully photographed (by Lucien Ballard) blopic of Depression-era New York gangster Jack Diamond, Mobeter specialist flay Danton is good in the lead role, gunning down competitors and romanding Dyan Cennon (9601470).

Sunset Seach. Cole learns that they will all die il the jewels are not returned to the Madonna by midnight on Christmas Eva. Don't you love this soap? (S) (3283091).

5.00 100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (6121673).

5.30 Family Attaire. Pete is e etap closer to finding Claire – but will be get to her before floy completes his "miseion"? (S) (T) (6112925).

7.00 5 News Update including First on Five. Kirsty gets cuts with the news (S) (T) (5975944).

7.30 Chempiona of Natura. Wildlie documentery about conservationist Jim Darling and his work with the Pacific grey whale (S) (T) (6141437).

5.00 The Pepel Chert. Dr Fox presents e Brit Awards epecial – teaturing the nominees end winners (5984692).

Family Confidentiel. Charting the effect on a family when e son decides he wants to become e woman. Do we need to know? (R) (S) (5970488).

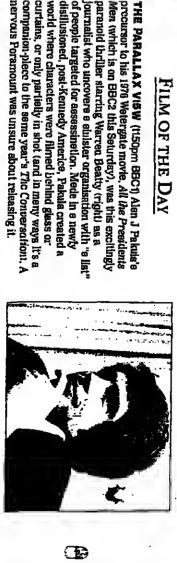
5.00 Illivi Siesp, Baby, Siesp (Armend Mastrolanni 1995 US). Thriller about a woman who becomes the police's prime euepect when her baby myetericusty disappears. The women suffers from ettention deficit disorder (three cheers for the novel engle), and her fismily suspect that this affiliction caused her to lose sight of the baby. But the police think differently, and begin treating the case as a possible homicide. With Tracey Gould, Kyle Chendier and Joanne Cassidy (S) (T) (98438953).

10.50 Bring Me the Head of Light Entertainment. Junior Simpson and Richerd Morion guest (S) (6975885)

12.00 Live and 0angerous (4596155). 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (9307267). 5.30 100 Per Cent (9693864). To 6am. 11.20 The Jack Oocherty Show. Michelle Colline keepe him compeny (S) (7754286).

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT





8.in.6.56 GFT/9.M.3.179.11.6.6 refs. HO 612.2.4.9.He 6.56 refs. HO 612.2.4.